

Billboard

THE SECRETS BEHIND GRAMMY
VOTING REVEALED >P.28

JAN
7
2006

FOR MORE THAN 110 YEARS



Holiday Blues

Retail Takes
A Big Hit This
Holiday Selling
Season >P.5



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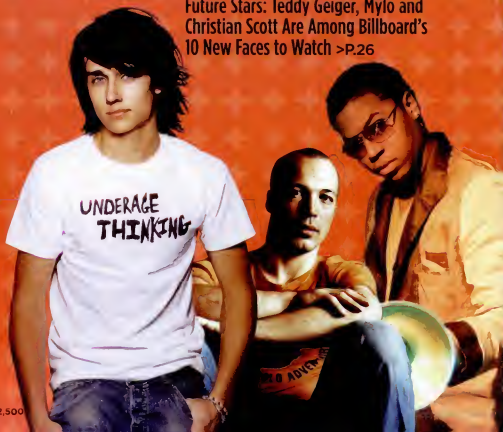


Road To The Grammys

Who's Behind
Album And Record
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WHO'S HOT IN 2006

Future Stars: Teddy Geiger, Mylo and
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10 New Faces to Watch >P.26



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ASTRALWERKS

congratulates our grammy nominees



SIX FEET UNDER VOL 2

Everything Ends • Official Soundtrack

- **Best Compilation Soundtrack Album For Motion Picture, Television Or Other Visual Media** (Category 80 • Field 22 • Film/TV/Visual Media)
- **Best Song Written For Motion Picture, Television Or Other Visual Media: "Cold Wind" by THE ARCADE FIRE** (Category 82 • Field 23 • Film/TV/Visual Media)



THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS

Push The Button

- **Best Dance Recording: "Galvanize" featuring Q-Tip**
From the album *Push The Button* (Field 2 • Dance Category 12)
- **Best Electronic/Dance Album: *Push The Button*** (Field 2 • Dance Category 13)



FATBOY SLIM

Palookaville

- **Best Dance Recording: "Wonderful Night" featuring Lateef**
From the album *Palookaville* (Field 2 • Dance Category 12)
- **Best Electronic/Dance Album: *Palookaville*** (Field 2 • Dance Category 13)



KRAFTWERK

Minimum-Maximum

- **Best Electronic/Dance Album: *Minimum-Maximum***
(Field 2 • Dance Category 13)

No. 1

ON THE CHARTS

ALBUMS

RANK	ARTIST / TITLE
THE BILLBOARD 200	
40	MARY J. BLIGE / <i>The Breakthrough</i>
56	BEASTIE BOYS / <i>Monkey Business</i>
57	ADRIANO PANICHI / <i>Adriano Panichi</i>
TOP CLASSICAL	
55	ALICE COOPER / <i>Black & White</i>
TOP CLASSICAL CROSSOVER	
55	ALICE COOPER / <i>Black & White</i>
TOP COUNTRY	
50	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP DIGITAL	
56	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP ELECTRONIC	
53	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP HEATSEKING	
57	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP HIP-HOP	
56	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP JAZZ	
55	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP CONTEMPORARY JAZZ	
55	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP LATIN	
52	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP R&B/HIP-HOP	
56	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>
TOP REGGAE	
47	THE COUNTRY CLUB / <i>The Country Club</i>

SINGLES

RANK	ARTIST / TITLE
ADULT CONTEMPORARY	
45	COMPTON'S LOCAL / <i>Compton's Local</i>
ADULT TOP 40	
51	NICKELBACK / <i>Never Again</i>
HOT DANCE CLUB PLAY	
53	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
HOT DANCE AIRPLAY	
53	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
HOT DIGITAL SONGS	
53	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
HOT 100	
44	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
HOT 100 AIRPLAY	
46	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
HOT SINGLES SALES	
46	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
HOT LATIN SONGS	
46	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
MODERN ROCK	
45	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
POP 100	
44	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
POP 100 AIRPLAY	
46	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
HOT R&B/HIP HOP	
48	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
HOT R&B/HIP HOP AIRPLAY	
48	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
R&B/HIP HOP SINGLES SALES	
48	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
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48	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>
RHYTHMIC	
48	MARSHALL CREEVEY / <i>Don't Forget About Us</i>

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57	THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN (UNSCREENED UNRATED VERSION)
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57	THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
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57	THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
GAME RENTALS	
57	THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN

THIS WEEK ON *blz*

RANK	ARTIST / TITLE
TOP BLUES	
41	GEORGE THORNTON & THE DESTROYERS / <i>George Thornton & The Destroyers</i>
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41	GEORGE THORNTON & THE DESTROYERS / <i>George Thornton & The Destroyers</i>
TOP DANCE SALES	
41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
TOP GOSPEL	
41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
TOP INDEPENDENT	
41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
TOP TOP CATALOG	
41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
HOT RINGTONES	
41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
TASTEMAKERS	
41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
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41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>
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41	DAVID NAYLOR / <i>Never Again</i>

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- WHO'S HOT IN 2006? Billboard lists the top 10 new artist faces to watch in all genres, including country's Shannon Brown.

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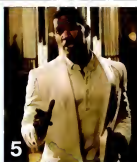
- THE HOLIDAY RETAIL SEASON was bleak, but releases from Eminem, Mary J. Blige and Jamie Foxx managed to make a dent in declining album sales.
- CES PREVIEW: A Digital Entertainment special feature on the annual consumer electronics trade show. Home entertainment systems may outshine portable MP3 players.
- GRAMMY VOTING is a secret no more. This blow by blow takes you through the process.
- RECORD AND ALBUM OF THE YEAR. Grammy Award nominees offer hot competition. Get the story behind such contenders as Paul McCartney.

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- Global Pulse, Classical Score
- Latin Notes
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BILLBOARD MUSIC & MONEY SYMPOSIUM
March 2
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The Billboard Music & Money Symposium is the premier event for music industry decision-makers, entrepreneurs and companies interested in providing funding for entertainment ventures. Exchange ideas, generate leads and share information with the most influential members of the music, financial and legal communities.

ABOVE: Carrie Underwood's "Some Hearts" is a top holiday seller notching more than 1.5 million in sales. See page 5.
Photo: Stephen Levine/WireImage.com
Photo: Kevin Mazur/WireImage.com
Photo: Scott Photo/Kid Scott



Big 'Breakthrough'
Mary J. Blige's new CD
hits holiday high note



Spitzer's Subpoenas
New York AG digs into
majors' digital pricing



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Execs like Gero Caccia
share their thoughts



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Family entertainment
rules year-end charts



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Acts like John Legend
perform in South Africa

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>>>NAPSTER

SUED

The fear by online services that a misstep will lead to an infringement suit has hit home for Napster.

The company was sued Dec. 16 in federal District Court in Nashville by MCS Music America on behalf of 28 publishers. The complaint lists about 800 recordings of songs available on Napster's service that MCS owns or controls and that were not licensed for subscription offerings. Napster says it typically requires labels to secure publishing rights. Yet the complaint alleges that Napster approached MCS to license its catalog last year.

When an MCS employee discovered the unlicensed songs on the service, the publishers sued. MCS wants \$150,000 for each act of infringement, an injunction and punitive damages.

>>>GREEN DAY TOPS 2005 EURO CHART

Green Day's "American Idiot" (Reprise) beat James Blunt's "Back to Bedlam" (Atlantic) to the No. 1 slot for 2005 as the Warner Music Group claimed the top two on Billboard's European Top 100 Albums chart during the past 12 months.

The overall label share in the year-end top 20 shows Universal leading with nine titles, followed by EMI with five and Sony BMG and Warner Music Group with three apiece.

>>>LINKIN PARK INKS NEW DEAL

Linkin Park settled its contract feud with Warner Music Group and signed a reported five-album, \$15 million pact with Warner Bros. Records on Dec. 27, reversing an earlier demand for release from its existing deal.

continued on >>>P6

Upfront

JANUARY 7, 2006

RETAIL BY ED CHRISTMAN

Holiday Retail 2005: Too Little, Too Late

NEW YORK—While Dec. 23 turned out to be one of the biggest days in sales volume that the music industry has enjoyed in years, it was not enough to save the holiday selling season for merchants.

For the five-week period that ran from Nov. 21 to Dec. 25, the U.S. music industry scanned 109.8 million album units, down 8.3% from the 119.7 million copies counted last year in the corresponding period, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

According to SoundScan, the industry enjoyed a modest 1.6% uptick in sales last week, with album sales reaching 33.2

million units.

But merchants contacted by Billboard paint a different overall holiday picture, saying that while sales improved from preceding weeks, same-store sales for music were still down around 10%. These retailers say that strong sales in product categories besides music left overall comparable-store sales down anywhere from 3% to 9% for the holiday selling period.

Merchants noted that sales were very strong on Dec. 26, fueling hope that sales for the rest of that week would help further close the gap with last year. "We are doing OK, and we still have a week to go," says Rob Perkins, president of Marietta, Ga.-based

Value Music.

But while the holiday selling season ended up stronger than it started, Mike Dreese, CEO of Brighton, Mass.-based Newbury Comics, says his chain experienced only three days during the holiday season in which it outsold the previous year, compared to 26 in which it did not.

During the holiday period, sales of current albums dropped about 12% from the 80.2 million units scanned in the five weeks of 2004 holiday sales. Top 40 hits averaged about a 40% decrease at chains surveyed during the holidays. Catalog sales held steady, selling slightly less than 40 million units **continued on >>>P6**

DIGITAL BY BRIAN GARRITY

Sony BMG Agrees To DRM Settlement

NEW YORK—Sony BMG has entered a preliminary agreement to settle a class action lawsuit brought against the company here for its use of copy-protection software that allegedly behaves like spyware. The move signals a setback to major-label efforts to control consumer copying of CDs.

Sony BMG on Dec. 28 reached a deal with New York class action attorneys to settle charges that copy-protection software the major label used on its CDs compromised the digital security and privacy of consumers who played the discs in their computers.

The cash value of the settlement, which will include payment of attorneys' fees, has not been fully defined. The settlement still requires judicial approval.

As part of the agreement, consumers who are already named as a party in the suits will be entitled to collect up to \$1,000, as well as

a cash refund of \$7.50 for each disc purchased, or a credit for three free album downloads; consumers now opting into the class will be entitled to the \$7.50 refund or album credits. Any U.S. consumer who purchased, received or came into possession of a Sony BMG copy-protected CD between Aug. 1, 2003, through Feb. 1, 2006, can be part of the suit.

Additionally, Sony BMG is agreeing to recall all copy-protected titles and to release uninstalls software and security patches for computers infected by the digital rights management technology. The company will waive certain provisions in the end-user license agreements the copy-protected discs contain and vow not to collect personal information through XCP, MediaMax and/or any future content-protection software without the express consent **continued on >>>P6**

Photo: Kevin Maize/WireImage.com

As part of the agreement, Warner Bros. is reported to be paying the band an estimated 20% royalty rate.

>>>LIVE NATION LAYS OFF 300
Live Nation, formerly part of Clear Channel Entertainment, will be terminating about 300 full-time employees and moving its headquarters to Los Angeles, according to a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The layoffs are a result of the company's ongoing reorganization. Live Nation CEO Michael Rapino is based in L.A.

>>>MCKAY, COLUMBIA SPLIT
Less than two weeks before the planned Jan. 3 release of her sophomore Columbia album, "Pretty Little Head," singer/songwriter Nellie McKay voluntarily left the label, sources tell billboard.biz. The parties apparently reached an impasse over the length of the project. McKay insisted the label release her 25-song, 66-minute version, while Columbia sent out promotional copies of a 16-song, 48-minute album.

>>>SIRIUS TOPS 3 MILLION SUBS
Sirius Satellite Radio reported Dec. 27 that it already exceeded its goal of 3 million subscribers by year's end, after closing out the third quarter with 2.17 million. Competitor XM had 5.03 million subs at the third quarter's end. An XM spokesman on Dec. 27 reiterated the company's guidance for 6 million at year's end.

>>>MUSIC LOVERS SAY YAHOOS
Music and musicians topped the list of most popular terms on Yahoo's search engine for 2005. Music stars dominated almost every category that did not exclude it (such as sports), stealing at least seven of the top 10 spots for image, video and celebrity searches.

>>>SENATE PRESSES RUSSIA ON PIRACY
The U.S. Senate passed a joint resolution Dec. 21

continued on >>>P8

RETAIL (cont.)

from >>>P5 both years.

According to Nielsen SoundScan, the top 10 made a last-week comeback, finishing up 20.5% over the total sales of the top 10 in the week before Christmas last year, fueled by three new releases. Mary J. Blige's "The Breakthrough" scanned about 727,000, Jamie Foxx's "Unpredictable" did 598,000 and the Notorious B.I.G.'s "Duets: The Final Chapter" moved 438,000. The three finished Nos. 1, 2 and 3 in this issue's The Billboard 200, based on sales for the week ending Dec. 25.

Overall, the top seller for the holiday period was Eminem, followed by the "Now 20" compilation and "American Idol" winner Carrie Underwood, with each of the titles selling slightly less than 1.2 million. There were some holiday shortages, including the Blige and Foxx records and top videos such as "The 40-Year-Old Virgin," but manufacturers scrambled to keep pace with demand, and, according to most retailers, generally succeeded.

And in indie stores, "It was a wacky kind of selling season,"

Newbury Comics buyer Carl Mello says. "Our biggest releases were a Haasilid reggae album [Matiasyahu's "Live at Stubb's"], a comedy album [Dane Cook's "Back at the Cabin"] and Johnny Cash [The Legend Of]."

Finally, digital music also played a part in the late retail rally. SoundScan numbers for the week ending Dec. 25 show digital track downloads growing to about 9.56 million—almost double last year's same-week totals, and up from 7.73 million the prior week, an increase of 23.7%. Digital album sales more than doubled to 531,000 units during Christmas week, the first time the 500,000 mark was passed in one week.

Search engine Yahoo also picked upon the trend. In its Dec. 27 "Buzz Log," the site noted that it knew "what you got this year." The answer was an iPod, "just like everyone else in your neighborhood, city and state." According to Yahoo, "queries on the coveted device more than doubled on the 25th after the wrapping paper was ripped to shreds, boosting the iPod into our top 20 search terms." ***

SONY (cont.)

from >>>P5

of consumers. Sony BMG executives contend that the company has never collected personal information from consumers using copy-protected CDs.

Sony BMG has already suspended the production of all copy-protected discs. As part of the deal, the company formally agrees to cease production of CDs using XCP DRM technology from First 4 Internet or MediaMax. DRM from SunComm.

Sony BMG also agreed to a series of injunctive measures governing any of its CDs manufactured with content-protection software during the next two years. Any copy-protected CD produced within that time frame must not install any software without the express consent of consumers or collect consumer information.

The extent to which Sony BMG ultimately will curb its production and use of copy-protected discs hinges on

what happens with attorneys general who are also investigating or have sued the company. The company is already being sued by the Texas attorney general's office for violating state spyware laws, and its copy-protection initiatives are the focus of investigations by the attorneys general in New York and Florida.

The attorneys general could accept the terms of the New York settlement to resolve their investigations.

The class action suit on which the settlement is based was filed Nov. 14 in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and led by Scott Kamber of Kamber & Associates.

Sony BMG issued a Dec. 29 statement that read, "We look forward to the court approval process." ***

Additional reporting by Susan Butler in New York.

New Mary J. Album A Sales 'Breakthrough'

As Mary J. Blige sings on her new album, "You can't hold a good woman down."

That was certainly the case for the R&B superstar during Christmas week. Her album "The Breakthrough" sold 727,000 units, making it the best opening week for a solo R&B female artist in the Nielsen SoundScan era. The uplifting album marks Blige's third project to hit No. 1 on The Billboard 200.

The feat is all the more remarkable given that the Dec. 25 release moved 441,000 units more in its debut week than her last studio set, 2003's "Love & Life."

Geffen Records faced the daunting task of setting up "The Breakthrough" in six weeks after deciding to postpone a planned greatest-hits set and slot in the new studio album. As Geffen GM Jeffrey Harleston says, "We put this project on microwave and got it together."

Blige attributes the album's success to her life being in a much better place than before and to the power of prayer.

"My goal was to make my fans happy, and I knew that 'Love & Life' was something that dis-

appointed them," she says. "None of us were in a good place. Too many cooks spoiled the soup. You had [Diddy] saying, 'Do this, do that,' and I wanted something else. I have to give the glory to God [for giving me the strength and guidance to do this]."

At 944,000 units, "Love & Life" is Blige's lowest-selling studio release. Her best seller is 1992's "What's the 411?," which has sold 3.1 million copies.

While Harleston is quick to give credit to the music on "The Breakthrough" and Blige's tireless work ethic, he also notes that a hit song, multiple high-profile TV appearances and reliving a project during the busiest sales week of the year ratcheted up the first-week numbers.

The album's opening single, "Be Without You," is No. 1 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs this issue, making it Blige's first topper on that chart since 2001's "Family Affair." Geffen will begin working the song to top 40 later this month.

Switching from the greatest-hits set to the studio album created challenges to meet the street date. Blige turned in the album at summer's end.

"There was talk of it not being ready and 'Let's put out a greatest hits,'" she recalls. "I was like, 'Do whatever you want to do,' but I knew in my heart it was ready."

Interscope Geffen A&M chairman Jimmy Iovine agreed with Blige. One week after the press release trumpeting the best-of collection came out, the decision was made to switch to the studio album. Geffen used the Internet and Blige's TV appearances on "Today," "The View" and other outlets to ensure that fans knew about the change.

Since retailers were already expecting a Blige album, Universal Music & Video Distribution had already secured price and positioning. Aiding first-week sales was album pricing of less than \$10 at a number of discount chains.

Even with everything in place, the sales potential for "The Breakthrough" may have been higher. By street date, UMVD had shipped 750,000 units, with most accounts selling through quickly and some store outages occurring. UMVD rapidly put another 600,000 units in the field, which left most stores with stock in place beyond Christmas.

"We ran out of Mary J. Blige, but UMVD got it right back in," says Troy Ngo, VP of purchasing for Anaheim, Calif.-based Super D.

"I must admit the consumer response was greater than we anticipated," Harleston says.

As for the greatest-hits set, Harleston says, not surprisingly, it is on indefinite hold. ***

Additional reporting by Keith Caulfield in Los Angeles and Ed Christman in New York.



MARY J. BLIGE has set a 25 sales record for R&B artists with her new album "The Breakthrough."

Nominated for two **GRAMMY**[®] awards.

Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals -CHRISTINA AGUILERA-

Best Pop Instrumental Performance -TREY ANASTASIO-



HERBIE HANCOCK POSSIBILITIES

FEATURING

CHRISTINA AGUILERA

TREY ANASTASIO

SANTANA & ANGÉLIQUE KIDJO

JOHN MAYER

ANNIE LENNOX

PAUL SIMON

DAMIEN RICE & LISA HANNIGAN

STING

RAUL MIDÓN

JONNY LANG & JOSS STONE

"There is not a dud track in the pack-rarely the case with these all-star projects. High marks go to Hancock's pop-perfect pairing with John Mayer on the impromptu "Stitched Up" and Christina Aguilera's version of Leon Russell's "A Song for You". -*Billboard*

"The impressive result feels like one big jam session with Hancock presiding; there's a real collaborative spirit at work as they push boundaries - and each other - reimagining old songs and creating new ones". -*People*

"[Possibilities] makes its crossover without condescension." -*New York Times*

"Jazz, pop in spirited harmony." -*Los Angeles Times*

"Hancock never stoops in his accompaniment and arrangements... His gently complex runs and ticklish fills lift each participant to a higher, soulful challenge." -*Philadelphia Inquirer*

**HANCOCK
MUSIC**



HEARMUSIC
THE SOUND OF STARBUCKS



SPECIAL BY SUSAN BUTLER

Spitzer Goes Digital

New York AG Subpoenas Majors Regarding Download Pricing

calling on the Russian Federation to provide effective protection for intellectual property or risk not being accepted into the World Trade Organization. The House of Representatives passed the resolution last month. Russia is the second-largest pirate market after China.

>>> MORE WOE FOR SONY BMG IN TEXAS

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on Dec. 21 added new allegations to his state's pending lawsuit against Sony BMG Music Entertainment for causing harm to consumers who purchased copy-protected CDs. The additional charges fall under the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act. Abbott's filing asserts that MediaMax software gets installed on users' PCs even if they click "no" to refuse the offered license agreement, a claim previously leveled by the Electronic Frontiers Foundation in its Nov. 21 lawsuit.

>>> MUSIC ZONE BUYS MVC STORES

British independent record retailer Music Zone announced Dec. 20 that it is buying 40 stores from rival MVC. Financial details of the transaction, struck with MVC's owner Argyll Partners, have not been disclosed. Following the deal, Music Zone will boast a network of about 100 outlets. A spokesman said staff cuts had not been discussed.

>>> WHO'S BACK TO TOUR

Pete Townshend confirms the Who will hit the road this summer in support of new material via a post to his Web site's online diary. Although no dates yet confirmed, Townshend's note reveals that the tour will launch following "a very, very cool" surprise announcement in June and that the shows may be viewable online.

Compiled by Chris M. Walsh. Reporting by Paul Bond, Lars Brandle, Susan Butler, Jonathan Cohen, Brian Garfity, Barry A. Jickell, Jill Kipnes, Jason Mackenzie, Chris Marlowe, Paul Sexton and Bill Werde.

NEW YORK—New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer has jumped into the debate over the price of digital downloads.

Warner Music Group disclosed in its Dec. 23 Securities and Exchange Commission filing that it was served with a subpoena three days earlier "in connection with an industrywide antitrust investigation over the pricing of digital downloads."

Sony BMG and EMI Music were also served with subpoenas. Universal Music Group could not be reached for comment.

Although Spitzer's office declined to state the basis for its investigation, published reports focus on public discussions between three of the four major labels and Apple Computer.

Federal and New York antitrust laws prohibit any contract—or any combination in the form of a trust—that restrains trade or commerce. Certain types of price fixing can be prosecuted as a felony. But it is not illegal for companies to copy the pricing of market leaders.

EMI Group, Sony BMG and WMG have publicly and privately urged Apple CEO Steve Jobs to adopt variable pricing for iTunes downloads. Older songs that sell less in demand could be sold for less than 99 cents while more popular hits could be sold for more, but jobs has been re-

luctant to change the pricing.

It remains unclear how these discussions may have broken new ground. One antitrust expert says that Spitzer has his work cut out for him.

"It's a tough case to prove," says Makan Delrahim with Brownstein, Hyatt & Farber in Washington, D.C. The former No. 2 antitrust lawyer with the Department of Justice says that Spitzer must either prove that two or more labels agreed to setting prices or must disprove any possibility that prices were independently determined by the labels.

In the music industry where so few companies control so

much of recorded music, however, "public nodes" from one label to another can be some evidence of a violation, Delrahim adds.

Industry sources expect the digital music services to be under attack with subpoenas shortly. In 2002, major music distributors and retailers settled an antitrust lawsuit brought by the attorneys general of 41 states and three U.S. commonwealths. The AGs claimed that the companies conspired to inflate CD prices. The parties did not admit any wrongdoing, but paid \$143 million saying they settled to avoid protracted, expensive litigation.



SPITZER

GLOBAL BY EMMANUEL LEGRAND

FRANCE SAYS 'OUI' TO P2P

PARIS—French lawmakers took a late-December step toward making their country the first to legalize unlicensed peer-to-peer downloads.

Three days before Christmas, during discussion of a new digital copyright bill, parliament passed an amendment, 30-28, that introduced the concept of an "optional global blanket license" system for contention on the Internet, creating a legal framework for home-use file sharing.

The bill was intended to modernize France's copyright legislation. The French government faced fines for not complying with a 2001 European Union di-

rective that mandated copyright protections.

The plan backfired as a coalition of dissidents pushed for the amendment, which considered downloading as "private copy," similar to the U.S. concept of fair use.

The amendment introduces an exemption for home copying for downloaded works from online services to Internet users who agree to pay "a consideration"—widely interpreted as a fee—through their Internet service providers. File sharers who do not pay could face sanctions.

The fee is expected to be fixed at 5 euros (\$5.92) to 7 euros

(\$8.28), but it is unclear how and by whom this fee will be set. Opponents to the amendment call

Trade groups for labels, publishers, retailers and authors fear a doomsday scenario.

the wording vague and decry the system as impossible to control or enforce.

The amendment applies to music only; films, software and

RETAIL: BY ED CHRISTMAN

Musicland's Struggle

Fiscal Difficulties Could Mean Bankruptcy

NEW YORK—As 2005 wound down, the Musicland Group's problems continued to mount, with the chain on a path that could lead to a Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing.

In late November Musicland began a major restructuring that included asking vendors to forgo about \$125 million in product payments for three years; it became a most requested as Musicland's banks reined in the chain's ability to draw funds from its \$200 million revolving credit facility.

According to sources familiar with the company's finances, the banks supplying the facility—Congress Financial and Fleet Retail Finance—told Musicland that it was in violation of the loan agreement and stopped it from accessing any funds unless approved by the bank.

For the remainder of December, Musicland was forced to pay upfront for needed product, sources say. If the banks continue to hold the purse strings tightly, a Musicland Chapter 11 filing seems likely in January, according to execs in the vendor community.

Musicland president/interim CEO Mike Hedden acknowledges Chapter 11 is a possible outcome, but says the company is evaluating options: "Our focus has to be on a solution that is right for our vendors, bank partners and employees."

The banks' credit tighten-

ing caught vendors off guard. Sun Capital assumed ownership of Musicland in June 2003, brought in Congress and Fleet, sources say, and told vendors that the banks would support Musicland if it hit trouble.

The revolver did not come with the usual financial performance covenants, sources say, that often trigger Chapter 11 proceedings. The loan agreement, however, included formulas for availability of funds, and, sources say, this is where Musicland has run afoul of the banks.

The banks first appeared to lose confidence in Musicland in October, when Sun Capital announced plans to raise \$50 million in equity and bank execs inquired about availability of funds, and, sources say, this is where Musicland has run afoul of the banks.

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In addition to asking vendors to forgo \$125 million in product payments, Musicland began liquidating the 61-unit Media Play chain, expected to be shuttered by the end of January.

Musicland also told vendors it would shutter another 110 stores if it could not get rent concessions. Musicland executives were already gambling that its vendors would not force the chain into a Chapter 11 filing. But the music industry's disastrous start to the holiday selling season, apparently unnerved banking executives, leaving Musicland with an uncertain future.

games have so far been exempted. Artists and musician groups Adami and Spedidam, together with consumer groups, had backed the amendment. Industry organizations repre-

senting the music industry, says Jérôme Rogier, managing director of indie labels' body UPMI.

Authors' rights society Sacem executive president Bernard Miège says that, if confirmed, the bill will put France in a awkward position in regard to a series of international measures, such as the WIPO treaties or European Union regulations on copyright.

The parliamentary debate on the bill will resume Jan. 17 at the earliest. The prime minister could ask for a vote on the original version of the bill, sans amendment. If passed, the bill would then go to the Senate.

Additional reporting by Aymeric Pichevin in Paris.

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Tomlinson Tops Sony/ATV As Hilley Retires

The presidential baton at Sony/ATV Music Publishing Nashville has been passed from 31-year company veteran Donna Hilley to Troy Tomlinson.

Hilley is retiring, according to Sony/ATV. Tomlinson served under Hilley as VP of creative.

Tomlinson says his first priority as president/CEO is securing—or in some instances creating—deals with about half a dozen writers whom he believes are among the best talents in country music. This is part of his long-term goal of creating an environment where top country music talent—including creative executives and business reps—feels they must work with Sony/ATV Nashville to be completely fulfilled.

"Donna has already laid an awesome foundation for our

company," Tomlinson says. "Nashville is not in need of a revolution; we are in constant need of evolution. It is an honor, a privilege and a great responsibility to follow an executive like Donna—one who knows how to run a business with a heart."

Tomlinson, whose publishing career spans more than 20 years, believes that the needs

of Nashville writers are sometimes different than those in other places.

For example, he says it is important for Nashville writers to feel comfortable spending time in the company's offices, to be around the people working at the company and to have a designated place where they can write and record. To that end, the

operation has an in-house studio.

"I want them to feel comfortable to come in and write and demo, but also to know that when their songs are recorded, a premier administrative team takes care of them."

Tomlinson will be responsible for supervising all creative elements for Sony/ATV Nashville, including the signing of new writers. He will also develop and implement strategies to create and exploit the catalog. He will report to Sony/ATV Music Publishing chairman/CEO David Moscovitz, who recently joined the board of the National Music Publishers' Assn.

Hilley could not be reached for comment. She joined Tree Music in 1973 and in 1989 engineered the sale of the company (then called Tree International)

to CBS—her proudest triumph. In 1994, she became president of Sony/ATV Nashville.

GLOBAL CROP: The Orchard, an online content aggregator, launched the Orchard Music Services in September. Since then it has been offering its crop of indie labels services that few, if any, aggregators provide—assisting indie labels and online services to clear U.S. rights from publishers worldwide.

"It's important that our licensing is done properly in the U.S. so that the foreign publishers can get paid for their digital sales," Orchard founder and chairman Richard Gottseiner says. OMS has set up a structure to secure U.S. rights by dealing with the Harry Fox Agency, which has begun acting for

some of its foreign publisher members, or locating and securing rights directly from foreign publishers.

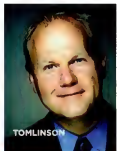
The service has also been setting up deals with major publishers to be able to license compositions recorded for indie labels that want to offer the recordings for master ringtones and audiovisual uses.

REACHING OUT: SESAC has expanded its use of Nielsen BDS resources. It has added monitoring of jazz, gospel, college radio and Americana formats in addition to webcasters and online streaming services.

Nielsen BDS captures more than 100 million song detections annually on more than 1,400 radio stations in about 150 U.S. and Canadian markets.



HILLEY



TOMLINSON



Making The Brand

MICHAEL PAOLETTA mpaoletta@billboard.com

Small's Big TV Splash

Heather Small may finally get her due in the United States. The incredibly photogenic Small was recently featured on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" where she performed "Proud," the title track from her 5-year-old solo debut album. And we have seen what happens when Oprah Winfrey champions an artist. Cash registers become active, again.

In the case of Small, such exposure may finally catapult her into the pop spotlight. We have been keeping an eye on Small since her days with '90s British dance-pop outfit M People. The quartet scored global hits with "Moving On Up," "Excited," "Open Your Heart" and other buoyant jams.

"It has been an experience," Small tells Billboard. "And I must give thanks to one of the show's producers."

According to Small, a "Winfrey" producer heard "Proud" in a workout class. "She thought the song might work for an upcoming theme on the show," Small says. The producer played it for Winfrey, and voila!

This transpired in October, when Small was on vacation in

Bali. "My manager sent me an e-mail that said, 'You'll never guess who I heard from,'" Small says. Pausing for a moment, she adds, "When Oprah calls, you go."

The album "Proud" was originally released internationally via Arista in the United Kingdom. Small may now find herself with a label to call home in the United States—particularly if the track "Proud" becomes a big seller at places like the iTunes Music Store.

Following Small's performance on the show, Winfrey told viewers what the song meant to her and that it was available at iTunes for 99 cents. According to Nielsen SoundScan, the track had about 200 digital downloads during the week prior to Small's appearance on Winfrey's show. Fans have since paid for 3,300 iTunes downloads of the track, which now total 12,000.

The impact of the performance was also felt by Small's management team—Brian Lane and Kate Allen of Bandana Management in London. Lane and Allen received numerous inquiries about Small from U.S.

record labels. Because of this, an artist showcase is being planned for February in New York.

Meanwhile, Small is working on her sophomore solo set for British label Private & Confidential.

Small is amazed by what she calls "the power of Oprah," which she says "you don't fully comprehend until you experience it."

"Proud" is no stranger to TV viewers, though. Minneapolis/St. Paul's third-largest health-care provider, HealthPartners, has been using the track in its TV and radio spots for several years. (Minneapolis ad agency Quasimoto created the campaign.)

The anthem song was also selected as an official song of the 2012 Olympics in London. It has also been heard on NBC reality show "The Biggest Loser."

Our fingers are crossed that Small will come out the biggest winner.

THE EYES HAVE IT: Virgin president of urban music and in-demand producer Jermaine "JD" Dupri recently joined forces with Cartier to raise money for

the Hurricane Relief Fund.

The two brands have linked to create two styles of eyewear. Available in wood or chrome, the limited-edition series features Dupri's signature etched in the lens, while the frame is adorned with Cartier's "C" logo.

Both styles retail for \$1,500 and are available exclusively at the Cartier boutique in Atlanta's Lenox Square Mall. A percentage of the proceeds will go to the Atlanta Community Food Bank and City of Refuge—two Atlanta-based liaisons for the Hurricane Relief Fund.

"I'm a big fan of Cartier," Dupri tells Billboard. He says the idea for an eyewear line came to him when he was getting a piece of jewelry repaired at the Cartier boutique in Atlanta. "That got me thinking about a limited edition that would benefit victims of the recent hurricanes."

Looking ahead, Dupri says he is interested in extending his JD and So So Def brands into other fashion areas. "I can see myself collaborating with brands I like," he says. In other words, brands that embody "the lifestyle I like to live."



SMALL

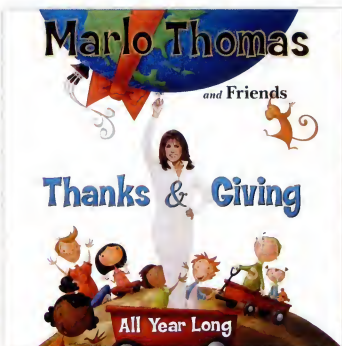
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ANTONIO BANDERAS ★
BERT & ERNIE ★
WAYNE BRADY ★
JIMMY BUFFETT ★
BILLY CRYSTAL ★
SHERYL CROW ★
HILARY DUFF ★
AMY GRANT & JOHN HIATT ★
FAITH HILL ★
JAMES EARL JONES ★
KERMIT THE FROG ★
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WIRELESS BY ANTHONY BRUNO

The Apple Of Their Eyes

With This Year's Wireless Products, Someone At CES Hopes To Have An 'iPod Killer'

As they have at the past few gatherings at the annual International Consumer Electronics Show, Apple Computer's competitors who will gather Jan. 5-8 in Las Vegas will once again have one little device in their cross hairs: the iPod.

Past challengers have had little success, as Apple extended its lead in 2005. Former CES exhibitors Virgin Electronics, Rio and Olympus—each of which used the last CES to showcase their "iPod killers"—have all pulled out of the MP3 market.

But this year's competitors are bringing a new capability to the table—wireless.

"MP3 manufacturers are looking at a lot of features to differentiate themselves to compete against Apple," IDC analyst Susan Kevorkian says. "We expect to see not only Wi-Fi devices, but also mobile and satellite support as well."

Heavy preschool buzz is already brewing around Verizon Wireless, which is expected to introduce a mobile music download service as well as several music-optimized mobile phones at a Jan. 5 press conference.

Details about the new service are slim at this time, but Verizon is likely to experiment with content pricing and packaging after getting beaten to the punch by rival Sprint—

which introduced the first U.S. full-song download service Oct. 31 at \$2.50 per track. Sources say Verizon will charge around \$1.99 per track. While the service almost certainly will support dual delivery, some have

range of a local Wi-Fi hot spot. The MusicGrenlin is one such company using CES to take the wraps off its much-delayed, self-titled device and integrated digital music service.

MusicGrenlin offers what it calls a PC-free digital music experience, meaning users have no need to

receiver for XM Satellite Radio. The Wireless Media Player is similar to the MusicGrenlin, except it does not operate its own music service. Instead, it works with partner Sonos to embed access to existing music stores into the device. To date, only Pandora Networks supports it.

Other wireless products being showcased at CES include XM's combined satellite receiver/MP3 player with time-shifting capabilities, made by Samsung, and a similar one marketed by XM rival Sirius Satellite Radio.

Although these various forms of wireless features are the new weapon of choice for anyone hoping to put a dent in the iPod's dominance, Apple seems ready to fight fire with fire.

The company's first stab at a wireless iPod was the much-maligned ROKR iTunes-compatible phone developed in conjunction with Motorola. But analysts and Apple rumor sites almost unanimously expect a wireless iPod of some sort in 2006.

Powering the rumor mill is the PortalPlayer, a major iPod component supplier that has made some eyebrow-raising wireless-related moves in recent weeks. In November, it added former Vodafone executive Tomas Isaksson to its board of directors. The following month, it licensed Sun Microsystems' Java Micro Edition technology specifically for the purpose of managing wireless media traffic.

Citigroup analyst Glen Young in a December research note said the company is seeking to acquire a wireless technology firm as well in anticipation of supporting wireless iPods.

"We're excited that there continues to be innovation and investment in these areas," Universal Music Mobile GM Mike Canfield says. "There's a lot of energy still being spent trying to figure out how to circumvent copyrights. If only a fraction of that energy were focused into trying to create new models and new devices and increase ease of use, that would be better for everybody." ■

BITS & BRIEFS

NAPSTER, IPOD MOST TOP OF MIND

Apple Computer's iTunes Music Store and Napster ended 2005 in a virtual tie in terms of consumer awareness, according to a recent study by global marketing research firm Ipsos Insight. According to the firm's quarterly TEMPO poll, U.S. music downloaders age 12 and older listed Napster as the most top-of-mind brand, at 37%, with iTunes close behind at 27%. However, iTunes was listed as the best music service, at 33%, followed by Napster at 23%. In terms of a la carte downloads, iTunes remains the most-used service, at 43%, followed by Napster at 26%, walmart.com at 16% and Rhapsody at 13%.

WMG PUSHES B.I.G. SET WITH RINGTONES

Warner Music Group is pulling out all digital stops in its promotion of "The Notorious B.I.G. Duets: The Final Chapter," which bowed Dec. 20. The label is providing different exclusive ringtones from the album to wireless operator Virgin Mobile

and independent ringtone service Jamster. Virgin will receive six ringtones of tracks remixed by Paul Wall, Jamster, meanwhile, is featuring Bad Boy Worldwide Entertainment Group founder and CEO Sean "Diddy" Combs in an interview on BET promoting its exclusive ringtones. Meanwhile, myspace.com is featuring a streaming video feed of an interview with the late rapper's mother.

P2P IMESH NOW SELLS RINGTONES

Music fans looking for their favorite song on peer-to-peer service iMesh can now access mobile phone ringtones via the service as well. iMesh is selling polychrome ringtones for \$1.99, which can be billed and downloaded directly to users' mobile phones. iMesh is partnering with wireless content distribution firm MediaPiazza, which is providing the ringtones and the billing platform. The iMesh P2P service, now operating with the blessing of the music industry, is currently available to the public in a beta mode.



hinted that Verizon may offer customers the ability to download tracks only to their phone or PC for a lower price. Entering the game this year for the first time is a new class of devices that lets users browse, buy and even trade music wirelessly when in

sync with an Internet-connected computer. Instead, it ships with a music store interface loaded onto the unit. Users can browse through available tracks and recommended playlists from the device, even when not connected to a Wi-Fi network, and select the songs they wish to download.

The MusicGrenlin actively searches for available Wi-Fi hot spots, and when in range automatically begins downloading any tracks selected. It also updates the store's database with new music and playlists when available. Users can either buy tracks à la carte or subscribe to the MusicGrenlin Direct monthly service, both powered by MusicNet. Subscribers can use the Wi-Fi feature to connect to other MusicGrenlin subscribers and send music recommendations or browse songs stored on each device, with permission.

A similar device is being showcased by Giant International subsidiary Tao, which also makes the XM tago portable



CREATIVE LABS UNVEILS ITS VIEWING

Creative Labs is showing no signs of slowing in its pursuit of Apple Computer's iPod market share, with the introduction of the Vision:M video-capable MP3 player.

The S06B device features a 2.5-inch high-resolution color screen that the company claims is able to display four times the color of the video iPod. And at four hours, its video playback time is double that of Apple's.

The Vision:M supports MPEG-2, MPEG-4 and WMV video formats, among others, as well as TiVoToGo and digital photos. In addition to video, the device is compatible with all WMA-based music stores, including support for all portable music subscription services.

Other features include an FM radio tuner, voice recording and Microsoft Outlook organizer compatibility, as well as a 15-hour battery. It is available in a variety of colors.

The Vision:M is in retail stores and available at us.creative.com for \$329.99. —Anthony Bruno

AOL Music
JAN 7
2006

TOP SONGS

1	EMINEM Without Me (RCA RECORDS)	1,018,001
2	MARY J. BLIGE The Love Letter (JIVE)	404,440
3	30 SECONDS The Real Thing (RCA)	286,144
4	AMAROK Impassioned 2 (IMPASSIONED 2)	219,294
5	PUSCATTY DOLLS BUSTA RYSTOFF (REVEREND)	201,675
6	CHIL Lips Like Yacht (ATLANTIC)	200,000
7	CHRIS BROWN Run It Up (JIVE)	175,628
8	BLACK EYED PEAS My Name Is (A&M)	160,125
9	NELLY Dilemma (JIVE)	155,110
10	FALL OUT BOY Dance, Dance (BLAND)	147,640

TOP VIDEOS

1	BLACK EYED PEAS My Name Is (A&M)	1,508,724
2	Bump Up (MUSIC VIDEO)	1,498,040
3	DEL Lips Like Yacht (ATLANTIC)	1,387,363
4	PUSCATTY DOLLS BUSTA RYSTOFF (REVEREND)	844,561
5	KELLY CLARKSON Run It Up (JIVE)	677,390
6	EMINEM Without Me (RCA RECORDS)	675,046
7	CHRIS BROWN Run It Up (JIVE)	625,105
8	MARSHAY CARNEY Don't Forget About Us (BLAND)	619,220
9	DEL Be Me (MUSIC VIDEO)	585,162
10	FALL OUT BOY Dance, Dance (BLAND)	580,000

**Data collected from AOL Music's "AOL Music" and "AOL Music" charts. ©2006 AOL Music. All rights reserved.*

Madonna's live performance of "Hung Up" from her AOL Music concert is still riding high on AOL's Top Video chart, coming in at No. 2.



The Indies

TODD MARTENS tmartens@billboard.com

New Year, New Labels For Ryko

New York-based Ryko Distribution heads into 2006 carrying a slate of new labels on its roster. Among the additions are electronic- and jazz-leaning Thirsty Ear Recordings and David Sylvian's previously online-only Samadhi Sound.

Ryko also added France's the Recall Group and world music label Gemini Sun. The latter was with Ryko last year via an agreement with Megaforce/MRI, which has since switched to RED Distribution.

Samadhi Sound, which will issue a new Sylvian album in 2006, comes to Ryko via a previous distribution agreement with **Robert Fripp's** Inner Knot. It is the same sort of setup that brought the newly formed Wheat Recording Co. and **Bill Laswell's** Innerhythmic to Ryko, as both will go through Peter Casperson's United for Opportunity.

Since losing MRI, Ryko has turned to some of its distributed labels to act as a quasi umbrella

group, giving the distributor a less risky way to work with tiny labels. "If a label can't hit the criteria to be self-sustaining, then we try to hit them up with one of the reliable umbrellas," Ryko GM Jim Cuomo says. "This is what we did with MRI. So what we've done now is taken the same design and applied it with other very, very honorable labels."

Certainly the largest name among the crop of new Ryko labels is Thirsty Ear, which was previously distributed by Alternative Distribution Alliance and had a relationship with Beggars Group in the '80s. The label brings Ryko a catalog that includes releases by such acts as El-P, DJ Spooky, Meat Beat Manifesto, Mat Maneri and Matthew Shipp.

Since about 2000, Shipp has served as artist director of Thirsty Ear's acclaimed Blue Series, which often pairs together hip-hop and jazz artists. Shinn will issue a new album.

"One," Jan. 24.

Looking ahead to 2006, Cuomo offered a grave prediction. "Armageddon is coming, as far as the closure of more retail outlets," he says. "This is done. There will continue to be less storefronts and less SKUs, and that's the heart of the challenge."

PATIENCE: Shout Factory's Jewish Music Group has earned some radio play with Chutzpah's "Chanukah's Da Bomb." The timely track, taken from the act's RED-distributed debut, "(Eponymous)," also scored the group an appearance on local Fox morning show "Good Day New York," and a New York Times piece ran the week of Hanukkah. Jewish Music Group head David McLees says,

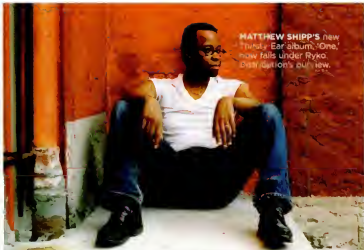
Yet the success and buzz RED has had with Matisyahu has thus far eluded the sillier Chutzpah. Not to worry, McLees says, as there are more holidays to come.

"We're working toward a Passover song with them that can be downloaded," McLees says. "It'll be free if you purchase the album, and the holiday theme is a way to market the record."

Matisyahu's accomplish-

ments likely means more Jewish hip-hop is on the way, but more than one artist will have to appeal to a non-Jewish audience to get retail excited. Just don't call Chutzpah a novelty, McLees says, even if the act features actor George Segal.

"This is no more of a joke than a lot of mainstream hip-hop," McLees says. "Gang-bangers sort of make fun of a lot of the things that go on in gangs, and they talk about an extreme personality that they aren't. It's not that far from that." ...



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GLOBALNEWSLINE

>>>SPAIN FUNDS ANTI-PIRACY ADS Spain launched its first government-funded national anti-piracy campaign during the Christmas period. The country's culture ministry spent 1 million euros (\$1.2 million) on the Dec. 18-Jan. 5 multimedia campaign under the banner "Defend Your Culture From Piracy."

Most of the funding went to 250 national TV advertisements, with other ads appearing in cinemas, on radio and in magazines. The campaign was a long-awaited part of an integrated anti-piracy plan unveiled by Culture Minister Carmen Calvo in April. Her proposals included coordinating the activities of 11 government ministries, local/regional governments and police with a media campaign.

The IFPI cites Spain—the world's ninth-biggest music market—as one of the 10 countries most affected by CD piracy. —Howell Lewis/lynn

>>>SONY BMG TURNS TO TV Sony BMG Music Entertainment Australia has set up a TV production division to develop music and entertainment programming.

The label's partner in the venture is Sydney-based Crackjack Productions, which produces the weekly "So Fresh" music show on the national free-to-air Nine Network. The two companies have previously collaborated on DVDs and TV commercials.

Sony BMG Music Entertainment Australia is recruiting an executive to head the division, reporting to chairman/CEO Denis Handlin. "Our plan is to extend the boundaries of music and entertainment TV production through creative new programming ideas that we are developing," Handlin says. He adds that the label's acts will heavily feature in the division's output. —Christie Eilerer

>>>TOSHIBA-EMI SELLS CD PLANT Tokyo-based label Toshiba-EMI has sold its CD-pressing plant in Gotemba, Shizuoka Prefecture, in line with parent EMI Group's global policy of divesting its manufacturing operations.

The Toeml Media Solutions consortium—comprising optical disc maker Memory-Tech, Kinoshita Printing, Goldman Sachs Group and magnatic tape/optical disc maker Altec—look over the manufacturing division Dec. 26. A price was not quoted for the sale.

In a statement, Toshiba-EMI says the move was necessary because "restructuring and intensifying competition in the CD-manufacturing field make it difficult to reduce production costs." —Steve McClure

>>>JAMBA FOUNDERS QUIT

Merc and Oliver Samwer, the brothers who launched German mobile entertainment company Jamba, have exited the firm.

The co-managing directors will stay on as consultants until June. A statement from Berlin-based Jamba cites personal reasons for their departure.

Deputy managing director Berger-de León and finance director Dirk Hoffmann step up into the managing director roles.

Jamba is credited as being the first European firm to make the sale of ringtones a mainstream business, in part through mass-market TV advertising campaigns.

The company was established in 2000 and sold in 2004 to U.S. internet company VeriSign. Jamba currently has 520 employees in more than 20 countries.

—Wolfgang Sphaer

>>>SONY/ATV BUILDING EMPIRE

London-based artist management firm Empire Management is entering the music publishing field.

Effective immediately, Empire Management co-founders and directors Neale Easterby and Richard Ramsey are working exclusively with Sony/ATV Music Publishing U.K. to source new and existing songwriting talent and copyrights for a new company, Empire Artist Music. Sony/ATV U.K. will subpublish Empire Artist Music globally. Terms were not disclosed.

Easterby and Ramsey manage a roster of acts that includes sibling pop stars Daniel and Natasha Bedingfield, the Feeling, Lucie Silvas and Estelle.

—Lars Brandle

Michael Grows Support Ashore

Sony BMG Tapping Into Europe's Love For 'Visionary' Michael Jackson

LONDON—An imminent cross-media campaign from Sony BMG underlines Europe's undiminished appetite for the vintage work of Michael Jackson.

Between February and June in the United Kingdom, the company will begin a series of weekly rereleases of 20 of Jackson's best-known songs as limited-edition singles. The project is reminiscent of a highly successful Elvis Presley campaign that Sony BMG launched 12 months ago.

The Jackson series, under the banner "Visionary—The Video Singles," will see each single released on DualDisc with its original video. Sony BMG dubs Jackson is the world's first artist to have DualDisc singles released. The Official U.K. Charts Co. confirms the singles are chart-eligible.

Sony BMG's Presley series was based around his 18 U.K. chart-toppers. All the rereleases reached the top five and three reached No. 1, generating total U.K. sales of 625,000

units, according to the OCC.

The Jackson project is due to begin Feb. 20 with two singles, "Thriller" and "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough." A limited, numbered box will also be sold to house all 20 releases. The series will conclude June 26 with "Blood on the Dance Floor."

Sony BMG U.K. VP of commercial marketing Darran Henderson believes total sales could outmar the Presley campaign, claiming Jackson's commercial status in Europe has not been adversely affected by negative publicity surrounding his personal life and last year's 14-week U.S. child abuse trial.

"The media have more of an issue [with that] than the British record-buying public," he says. Further, the DualDisc aspect lets the company focus on Jackson's innovative visual work.

Henderson notes that while Sony BMG's international companies initially felt the

Presley campaign was inappropriate for their markets, they noted the British sales and media impact with interest. Consequently, Sony BMG in France and in Germany will run with the Jackson series week by week. Other territories will release the singles in "batches." There were not any firm plans at press time for a U.S. campaign.

Retail reaction so far is positive. London-based HMV U.K. and Ireland singles buyer Stewart Allan describes Jackson as "one of the few artists with the depth of singles, recording heritage and dedicated fan base to make such a project work."

Allan points out that the label and retail can draw upon the Presley experience to make the campaign work effectively. "[This] also presents a per-

fect opportunity to further test and develop the DualDisc format," he adds.

Sony BMG says the 2005 38-track Epic double CD "The Essential Michael Jackson" is platinum in the United Kingdom (300,000 shipments). In the United States, however, negative publicity appears to have



GLOBAL BY LILIA COBO

Latin Biz Battles Pirates

MIAMI—Despite continuing struggles against piracy, it was a year of cautious optimism for music in Latin America, with an increase in new-artist signings, the opening of digital stores in several countries and a surge of sales in key markets, including Mexico and Argentina.

The year ended with multiple raids across the continent, executed by the IFPI in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies, several of whom have stepped up to the plate in an unprecedented degree in the fight against piracy.

The most relevant anti-piracy operations were seen in Argentina and Mexico.

Argentina kicked off an aggressive online anti-piracy effort in November that coincided with the launch of the country's first online music store. Epos Digital, an arm of indie label/distributor Epos Music, launched its online music store in December.

Other companies are expected to follow suit in the coming months. They hope to cap-

italize on an incipient digital market whose potential has exploded thanks to the growth and availability of broadband.

According to a study that market consultant firm Quarter Consumer Research conducted in 2004, 286 million tracks were illegally downloaded in Argentina.

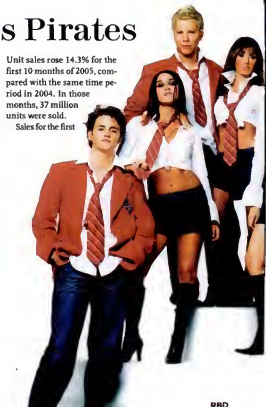
Mexico also launched its first online music stores—Tarabú and Beon—in 2005, even as anti-piracy efforts centered on physical piracy.

In that arena, Mexico was a pioneer, thanks to its Mexico Plus project, that seeks to convert illegal street vendors into legitimate music retailers. The project, which brings together local, state and federal officials, not only applied sanctions to vendors of counterfeit music, it offered alternatives, including lower-priced product from labels.

All those factors, compounded by a healthy release schedule and a surge of new acts, contributed to a recuperation of the local market.

Unit sales rose 14.3% for the first 10 months of 2005, compared with the same time period in 2004. In those months, 37 million units were sold.

Sales for the first



RBD

UpFront



A series of **MICHAEL JACKSON** singles will be rereleased on DualDisc in the United Kingdom, along with a limited-edition storage box.

done for more damage to the artist's commercial profile. In July the double CD had first-week sales of only 8,000 units, according to Nielsen SoundScan, and has sold 93,000 to date.

Jackson is still a presence at U.K. radio, Manchester's adult top 40 Key 103 PD Anthony Gay says. "We play Jackson at various points during the week," he says. "Billie Jean" and "Beat It" are active songs, and we'll also work in others from the catalog."

Gay says he stopped playing Jackson's songs during the 2005 trial. "At times," he says, "the nature of the court reporting and the allegations created an uncomfortable atmosphere [that was] jarring

around his music."

According to Gay, the release of the singles means he will "certainly consider" Jackson's catalog more in the coming weeks. "I'm sure his music will be picked up by new audiences," he adds, "as long as people are able to separate that from his personal life."

The singles campaign will not be the only reminder for U.K. consumers. In early 2006 of Jackson's past work. Dance track "Sey Say Say (Wellington 4 U)" by Hi-Tack, originally on Dutch label Spinnin and which samples Jackson's vocal from his 1983 collaboration with Paul McCartney, will be re-released Jan. 16 in the United Kingdom by Independent Gusto Records.

That will be followed by a dance version of Jackson's 1988 hit "Man in the Mirror" by Rhythme Digital featuring Redd Angel on dance indie All Around the World. —



10 months of the year were also up in Colombia (5.1%), Chile (20.6%) and, most notably, in Argentina, by a dramatic 25.6%, compared with

the same time period in 2004. The biggest black mark for the region was giant Brazil, where unit sales dropped by 23% for the first 10 months of the year, and market value dropped 15.5%. The commonly cited culprit was physical piracy.

But Brazil grew digitally, thanks to online music store iMusica, launched in 2004. Likewise, the country is now among the top five biggest mobile subscription markets worldwide, although the low penetration of music-capable phones is restricting the growth of mobile music.

On the bright side, innovative thinking helped boost the market and foil pirates. One of Brazil's success stories for 2005 was singer Ivete Sangalo, who has sold nearly 500,000 copies of "As Super Novas" (Universal), released in fourth-quarter 2005. The bulk of sales came via a partnership with Avon in Brazil, which has its sales force selling Sangalo's album door to door in remote

regions where there are no music retailers.

Other top sellers in Brazil include singer/songwriter Ana Carolina (Sony BMG) and newcomer Banda Calypso. Both acts currently have two albums each on Brazil's sales charts.

Most surprising was Mexican pop group RBD, which is topping Brazilian charts with Portuguese and Spanish versions of its album "Rebelde" (EMI).

The RBD phenomenon extends through Latin America and highlights the continuing power of TV to launch musical acts in the region. (Teen soap opera "Rebelde" is the program that spawned RBD.)

Other TV-generated acts include Yuridia in Mexico, Floricienta in Argentina and Jorge in Colombia.

Beyond TV, the biggest releases belonged to two Colombians: Shakira, with her "Fijación Oral Vol. 1" (Epic), and Juanes, with the continued success of his 2004 release "Mi Sangre" (Universal). —



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2006: Global View Of A Digital World

As 2005 drew to a close, Billboard polled top global music industry executives about what 2006 might bring in terms of business developments and artist breakthroughs.

Optimism about the improving state of legal digital distribution was the main theme to emerge, along with a list of developing talent that emphasizes the perceived potential of domestic repertoire in 2006.

The questions:

- 1) What are you looking forward to in 2006?
- 2) Who are the acts to watch in 2006?

sal Music Publishing Group (London): 1) "The U.K. online royalties row being settled. More international success for Kaiser Chiefs, Franz Ferdinand and the Killers. The 2006 [soccer] World Cup in Germany. Further catalog activities to add to our 2005 deals: Elton John, the Smiths, the Clash and others."

2) "Arctic Monkey, Orson, Jack Johnson, Guillemots."

Denis Handlin, chairman/CEO, Sony BMG Music Entertainment Australia (Sydney): 1) "2006 should be the most formative year in digital sales, with the growth of [third-

Generation (Tokyo): 1) "Online distribution [downloads] will go up dramatically. iTunes will see many try to follow its path, and CD sales will continue to lag. There will be further downsizing and reorganization of the record industry as a whole."

Harry Hui, president, Universal Music South East Asia (Hong Kong): 1) "The digital consumption of music will be more innovative. We will see very cool music products and new services introduced to the market. New hits and new artists will be discovered from the new media sphere as well

ishers. Submarines, Leigh Nash, State Radio."

Martin Mills, CEO, Beggars Group (London): 1) "The record industry accepting that sharing and copying can and should be monetized to the benefit of all."

2) "Raconteurs, Cat Power, TV on the Radio, Be Your Own Pet."

Guy Moot, managing director, EMI Music Publishing U.K. (London): 1) "Our new acts breaking and some great second-album acts coming back. The new opportunities emerging for users of our music and agreeing on rates."

and Silverchair [and] also great singer/songwriter albums due from Bob Dylan, Kasey Chambers and Shane Nicholson."

Denis Olivennes, president/CEO, FNAC (Paris): 1) "I expect the music industry to be less short-sighted than it has been [and] put an end to the erratic pricing our consumers don't understand. It's also time to make the maximum number of titles available to all the legal download services in the minimum amount of time."

"I'm hoping labels—majors or independents—will cultivate the talent of established or up-and-

the digital market really get established, particularly on mobile, where the potential is enormous. To the Grammys and the Brits—our acts are heavily nominated in both. To seeing KT Tunstall's album perform in the States—we are over a million in the U.K., and it has kicked off brilliantly over there."

2) "Cotline Bailey Rae—unique voice, beautiful songs and a real star."

Horst Weidenmueller, CEO, K7 (Berlin): 1) "Exploring online opportunities even more than we do already. With the Internet, we have a medium



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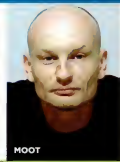
HUI



MCBRIDE



MILLS



MOOT



O'DONNELL



OLIVENNES



WADSWORTH



WEIDENMUELLER

Gero Caccia, COO, Warner Music International (London): 1) "Our challenge is to have the intellectual ability to create new business models that will give more value to our content through all the opportunities digital distribution offers. If we manage them well, these opportunities will deliver incremental value to our creative content."

2) "Madonna and Laura Pausani—and Atlantic-signed British rock act Hard-Fi, who are in the process of becoming really huge."

Paul Connolly, president for Europe/managing director for the United Kingdom, Universal

generation) services and the aggressive push in digital download retailing by traditional retailers. [Sony BMG Australia] will continue to reinvent our business to lead in a quickly changing market place. Local artists will remain a key priority."

2) "We have six new acts—including Melbourne rock band the Sparrows—in development which will be releasing albums in 2006. I look forward to the new Silverchair album through my friend John Watson's label Eleven the Music/EMI."

Sadahiko Hirose, president/CEO, Columbia Music

as through traditional A&R."

2) "Doo Lang's next album." Terry McBride, CEO, Nettwerk Music Group (Vancouver): 1) "Seeing the music fan continue to win the battle with our industry on how they wish to enjoy music. Apple and the majors resolving their issues: that way maybe kids will start paying to get Avril [Lavigne], Dido and Sarah McLachlan's music in Japan and Australia. Apple selling videos by independent artists. Doing what I truly love, enjoying music and the great artists that make it." 2) "Sufjan Stevens breaking through to the mainstream, Barenaked Ladies, Guster, Per-

2) "The Feeling, Luke Toms, Gnarts Berkley."

John O'Donnell, managing director, EMI Music Australia (Sydney): 1) A year of great music—2005 has been great for new and emerging artists, and 2006 is shaping up even better. There's a bunch of big Australian artists releasing albums next year which will excite the market, and I'm looking forward to digital and mobile sales really taking root."

2) "The Sleepy Jackson album [due in May] will blow people's minds. It's going to be a big year for Australian rock, with new albums from the Living End, Jet, You Am I

coming artists rather than go for formatted recipes."

2) "From France: Anaïs, Camille and Raphael. Also Carla Bruni's second album and classical performer Rondo Villazone. From Italy: Baustelle and Negramaro. From Belgium: Ghinzu and Arsenal. From Portugal: the Gift. Da Weasel and Wray Gun. From Spain: Bebe and Ojos De Brujo. From Switzerland: Jérémie Kirling and Polar. From Greece: singer/songwriter Elefthia and Zak Stephanou."

Tony Wadsworth, chairman/CEO, EMI Music U.K. & Ireland (London): 1) "Seeing

we [still] have unrestricted access to, and the only thing that really counts is great music and good marketing ideas. I hope that in 2006 many online labels will launch, enabling young artists to develop before they have to face the cruel world of physical distribution."

2) "VoonVoon, a new project by Peter Kruder and Fauna Flash on K7."

Reporting by Emmanuel Legrand and Lars Brandt in London; Christie Eleazer in Melbourne, Australia; Amyric Pichevin in Paris; Larry LeBlanc in Toronto; and Steve McClure in Tokyo.

Retail Track

ED CHRISTMAN echristman@billboard.com



Behind The WEA Reorganization

WEA continues to redefine itself in order to remain ahead of the changing landscape. In the wake of the departure of executive VP of sales and marketing John Madison, WEA has been reorganized into four distinct units, with some of its top executives promoted and given new responsibilities. There were no cuts in the realignment.

Madison's exit gave management a chance to "redefine" WEA, president/CEO John Esposito says. "We live in a day and age of managing disparate accounts and new emerging distribution channels," he says. "I'm confident these changes will better serve our customers, label partners and their artists, and better situate WEA to fulfill our mission to get the right music in the right place at the right time." In other words, to be the "best in class" supply chain.

Consequently, Mike Jbara, formerly senior VP of production and media operations, has been promoted to executive VP/COO, overseeing operations and administration. Matt Signore, who previously was CFO and before that CFO/GM at Island Def Jam, has been promoted to CFO/GM, overseeing sales analysis, credit and finance.

Also, Todd Van Gorp, formerly VP of field sales, has been promoted to senior VP of sales and marketing, overseeing those two areas as well as developing markets; and the e-commerce unit continues to be led by senior VP Adam Mirabella.

All four executives report to Esposito.

In addition to positioning WEA to more efficiently seize opportunities in the evolving physical and digital music environment, the changes were also made to allow Esposito to better address WEA's mandate within the Warner Music Group. During the past several years, WEA's role as WMG's retail sales and distribution arm has grown to

include the oversight of the company's Independent Distributor Alternative Distribution Alliance; WMG's incubator labels, Asylum and East West; and its digital-only label Cordless, as well as its global, digital assets and e-commerce group.

The latter companies all report directly to Esposito.

NEXT STOP: John Madison may have left WEA, but he is teaming up with Jim Caparo again as executive VP of Entertainment Distribution Co., which the former Island Def Jam Music Group chairman

has any columns at all.

Likewise, the record club sector also provided fireworks this year, and it was noted in the year-end headlines. Also, it was not mentioned in the Dec. 24 issue for the same reason that EDC was not. During the summer BMG Direct acquired Columbe House, and now owns a U.S. monopoly in the record club sector. But before that happened, BMG Direct also managed to pick off every retailer in the land, by launching its yourmusic.com site, which sells all CDs at \$5.99 under a quasi-subscription model that it still

'These changes will get the right music in the right place at the right time.'

—JOHN ESPOSITO, WEA

started with the aid of Glensayre Technologies. Glensayre, a publicly traded company, acquired the U.S. and European manufacturing and distribution centers from Universal Music Group, and named Caparo president of the EDC division. Caparo aims to build EDC into the back room for music and other entertainment software industries.

Indeed, the creation of EDC should have been named one of the top retail stories of 2005, but due to an oversight on my part, it was not mentioned in the year-end story I wrote for the Dec. 24 issue nor did it appear in the headlines. I did not actually forget the story, but my plans to include it in the Retail Track column for that issue were dashed, when I belatedly discovered (a fancy way to say I should keep up with my e-mail) that the year-end issue would not

toots to this day.

But BMG Direct stopped a retail uprising against the site flat in its tracks. It sued the most vocal critic of the site, En X-tacy, an independent store that the club claimed violated the terms of sale of the site. As an independent, the merchant settled rather than go toe-to-toe with the deep pockets of BMG Direct.

The urban side of independent retail also felt the sting of a bigger and stronger edversary when RIAA crackdown on mix tapes led authorities to raid a few independent R&B stores in the New England area.

MY MISTAKE: While I am talking about the year-end story, I should mention that I once again screwed up on Starbucks. The correct name of its concept that combines a record store with a coffee emporium is the Hear Music Coffeehouse.

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Top DVD Sales

Pos. LABEL: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT (32)**
- 2 WARNER HOME VIDEO (133)**
- 3 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO (37)**
- 4 FOXVIDEO (86)**
- 5 COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT (55)**

Top DVD Sales

Pos. TITLE: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 THE INCREDIBLES (WIDESCREEN) Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 2 ELF New Line Home Entertainment/Warner Home Video**
- 3 THE INCREDIBLES (FULL SCREEN) Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 4 NAPOLEON DYNAMITE FoxVideo**
- 5 SHREK 2 (WIDESCREEN) DreamWorks Home Entertainment/Universal Studios Home Video**
- 6 SPIDER-MAN 2 (WIDESCREEN SPECIAL EDITION) Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment**
- 7 HARRY POTTER & THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN (PAN & SCAN 2 DISC EDITION) Warner Home Video**
- 8 SHREK 2 (PAN & SCAN) DreamWorks Home Entertainment/Universal Studios Home Video**
- 9 THE LORD OF THE RINGS: RETURN OF THE KING (SPECIAL EXTENDED EDITION) New Line Home Entertainment/Warner Home Video**
- 10 HARRY POTTER & THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN (WIDESCREEN 2 DISC EDITION) Warner Home Video**
- 11 BAMBI 2 DISC SPECIAL EDITION Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 12 THE NOTEBOOK New Line Home Entertainment/Warner Home Video**
- 13 CINDERELLA: SPECIAL EDITION Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 14 STAR WARS EPISODE III - REVENGE OF THE SITH (WIDESCREEN) FoxVideo**
- 15 SHARK TALE (WIDESCREEN) DreamWorks Home Entertainment**
- 16 SPIDER-MAN 2 (PAN & SCAN SPECIAL EDITION) Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment**
- 17 SHARK TALE (PAN & SCAN) DreamWorks Home Entertainment**
- 18 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY (WIDESCREEN) Universal Studios Home Video**
- 19 CINDERELLA DreamWorks Home Entertainment/Universal**

Studios Home Video

- 20 MEET THE FOCKERS (WIDESCREEN) Universal Studios Home Video**
- 21 SIN CITY Dimension Home Video/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 22 RAY (WIDESCREEN) Universal Studios Home Video**
- 23 NATIONAL TREASURE (FULL SCREEN) Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Rhino Home Video**
- 24 I, ROBOT (WIDESCREEN) 20th Century Fox**
- 25 CHAPPELLE'S SHOW: SEASON 2 (UNCENSORED) Paramount Home Entertainment**

Top Video Game Rentals

Pos. LABEL: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 ELECTRONIC ARTS (26)**
- 2 ROCKSTAR GAMES (5)**
- 3 LUCASARTS ENTERTAINMENT (7)**
- 4 ACTIVISION (3)**
- 5 SONY COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT (8)**

Top Video Game Rentals

Pos. TITLE: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 P52: GRAND THEFT AUTO: SAN ANDREAS Rockstar Games**
- 2 P52: NEED FOR SPEED: UNDERGROUND 2 Electronic Arts**
- 3 P52: MIDNIGHT CLUB 3: DUB EDITION Rockstar Games**
- 4 XBOX: HALO 2**
- 5 P52: STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH LucasArts Entertainment**
- 6 P52: MADDEN NFL 2006**
- 7 P52: WWE SHOCKWAVE VS. RAW**
- 8 XBOX: GRAN TURISMO 4**
- 9 XBOX: MIDNIGHT CLUB 3: DUB EDITION Rockstar Games**
- 10 P52: NCAA FOOTBALL 2006**

Billboard Comprehensive Music Videos Distributing Labels

Pos. LABEL: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 WARNER MUSIC VIDEO (24)**
- 2 UNIVERSAL MUSIC VIDEO (54)**
- 3 SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT (31)**
- 4 SONY BMG VIDEO (26)**
- 5 RHINO HOME VIDEO (12)**

Billboard Comprehensive Music Video Sales

Pos. TITLE: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 MTV ULTIMATE MASH-UPS PRESENTS: COLLISION COURSE Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/Warner Bros./Warner Music Video**

Music Video

- 2 GREATEST HITS Wind-Up Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 3 LIVE AT THE GREEK 143/Reprise Music Video/Warner Music Video**
- 4 HOW TO DISMANTLE AN ATOMIC BOMB Interscope Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 5 FAREWELL I TOUR: LIVE FROM MELBOURNE Rhino Home Video**
- 6 ANYWHERE BUT HOME Wind-Up Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 7 STAR WARS EPISODE III: REVENGE OF THE SITH Sony Classical Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 8 WITH THE LIGHTS OUT (BOX SET) Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 9 THE MASSACRE: SPECIAL EDITION CD/DVD Shady/Aftermath/G-Unit/Interscope/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 10 FAMILY JEWELS Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 11 CHOSEN FEW: EL DOCUMENTAL Chosen Few/Urban Box Office**
- 12 NUMBER ONES Polydor/Universal Music Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 13 LIVE AT DONINGTON Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 14 CROSSROADS GUITAR FESTIVAL (2 DISC SET) Warner Strategic Marketing/Warner Music Video**
- 15 CRUNK JUICE BME/TVT**
- 16 WORDS & MUSIC JOHN MELLENCAMP'S GREATEST HITS Island/UTV/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 17 LIVE AID Warner Strategic Marketing/Warner Music Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 18 YOU GOTTA MOVE Columbia Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 19 HERE FOR THE PARTY Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 20 AFTERGLOW Live Artists/Sony BMG Video**
- 21 THE BEST OF PANTERA: FAR BEYOND THE GREAT SOUTHERN COWBOYS' VULGAR HITS Elektra/Rhino Home Video/Warner Music Video**
- 22 THE SILENCE IN BLACK AND WHITE Victory**
- 23 PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 24 LED ZEPPELIN Atlantic Video/Warner Music Video**
- 25 BIG & RICH'S SUPER GALACTIC FAN PAK Warner Reprise Video/Warner Music Video**
- 26 SONY BMG VIDEO (26)**
- 27 RHINO HOME VIDEO (11)**

Top Music Video Sales Distributing Labels

Pos. LABEL: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 WARNER MUSIC VIDEO (24)**
- 2 UNIVERSAL MUSIC VIDEO (54)**
- 3 SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT (31)**
- 4 SONY BMG VIDEO (26)**
- 5 RHINO HOME VIDEO (11)**

Top Music Video Sales

Pos. TITLE: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 MTV ULTIMATE MASH-UPS PRESENTS: COLLISION COURSE Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/Warner Bros./Warner Music Video**
- 2 GREATEST HITS Wind-Up Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 3 LIVE AT THE GREEK 143/Reprise Music Video/Warner Music Video**
- 4 HOW TO DISMANTLE AN ATOMIC BOMB Interscope Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 5 FAREWELL I TOUR: LIVE FROM MELBOURNE Rhino Home Video**
- 6 ANYWHERE BUT HOME Wind-Up Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 7 STAR WARS EPISODE III: REVENGE OF THE SITH Sony Classical Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 8 WITH THE LIGHTS OUT (BOX SET) Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 9 THE MASSACRE: SPECIAL EDITION CD/DVD Shady/Aftermath/G-Unit/Interscope/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 10 FAMILY JEWELS Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 11 CHOSEN FEW: EL DOCUMENTAL Chosen Few/Urban Box Office**
- 12 NUMBER ONES Polydor/Universal Music Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 13 LIVE AT DONINGTON Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 14 CROSSROADS GUITAR FESTIVAL (2 DISC SET) Warner Strategic Marketing/Warner Music Video**
- 15 CRUNK JUICE BME/TVT**
- 16 WORDS & MUSIC JOHN MELLENCAMP'S GREATEST HITS Island/UTV/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 17 LIVE AID Warner Strategic Marketing/Warner Music Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 18 YOU GOTTA MOVE Columbia Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 19 HERE FOR THE PARTY Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 20 AFTERGLOW Live Artists/Sony BMG Video**
- 21 THE BEST OF PANTERA: FAR BEYOND THE GREAT SOUTHERN COWBOYS' VULGAR HITS Elektra/Rhino Home Video/Warner Music Video**
- 22 THE SILENCE IN BLACK AND WHITE Victory**
- 23 PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 24 LED ZEPPELIN Atlantic Video/Warner Music Video**
- 25 BIG & RICH'S SUPER GALACTIC FAN PAK Warner Reprise Video/Warner Music Video**
- 26 SONY BMG VIDEO (26)**
- 27 RHINO HOME VIDEO (11)**

Up Video/Sony BMG Video

- 1 STAR WARS EPISODE III: REVENGE OF THE SITH Sony Classical Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 2 WITH THE LIGHTS OUT (BOX SET) Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 3 THE MASSACRE: SPECIAL EDITION CD/DVD Shady/Aftermath/G-Unit/Interscope/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 4 FAMILY JEWELS Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 5 NUMBER ONES Polydor/Universal Music Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 6 CHOSEN FEW: EL DOCUMENTAL Chosen Few/Urban Box Office**
- 7 LIVE AT DONINGTON Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 8 CROSSROADS GUITAR FESTIVAL (2 DISC SET) Warner Strategic Marketing/Warner Music Video**
- 9 CRUNK JUICE BME/TVT**
- 10 WORDS & MUSIC JOHN MELLENCAMP'S GREATEST HITS Island/UTV/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 11 LIVE AID Warner Strategic Marketing/Warner Music Video/Sony BMG Video**
- 12 YOU GOTTA MOVE Columbia Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 13 HERE FOR THE PARTY Epic Music Video/Sony Music Entertainment**
- 14 AFTERGLOW Live Artists/Sony BMG Video**
- 15 THE BEST OF PANTERA: FAR BEYOND THE GREAT SOUTHERN COWBOYS' VULGAR HITS Elektra/Rhino Home Video/Warner Music Video**
- 16 THE SILENCE IN BLACK AND WHITE Victory**
- 17 PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist.**
- 18 LED ZEPPELIN Atlantic Video/Warner Music Video**
- 19 BIG & RICH'S SUPER GALACTIC FAN PAK Warner Reprise Video/Warner Music Video**
- 20 SONY BMG VIDEO (26)**
- 21 RHINO HOME VIDEO (11)**

Top Video Rentals Distributing Labels

Pos. LABEL: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO (21)**
- 2 BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT (22)**
- 3 WARNER HOME VIDEO (20)**
- 4 FOXVIDEO (20)**
- 5 COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT (16)**

Top VHS Sales Distributing Labels

Pos. LABEL: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 WARNER HOME VIDEO (21)**
- 2 PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT (38)**

- 3 BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT (40)**
- 4 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO (13)**
- 5 FOXVIDEO (19)**

Top VHS Sales

Pos. TITLE: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 SHREK 2 DreamWorks Home Entertainment/Universal Studios Home Video**
- 2 HARRY POTTER & THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN Warner Home Video**
- 3 SHARK TALE DreamWorks Home Entertainment**
- 4 ELF New Line Home Entertainment/Warner Home Video**
- 5 SPIDER-MAN 2 Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment**
- 6 GARFIELD THE MOVIE FoxVideo**
- 7 THE INCREDIBLES Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 8 SCOOBY DOO 2: MONSTERS UNLEASHED Warner Home Video**
- 9 MICKY'S TWICE UPON A CHRISTMAS Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 10 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2: ROYAL ENGAGEMENT Buena Vista Home Entertainment/Walt Disney Home Video**
- 11 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE Paramount Home Entertainment**
- 12 MULAN 2 Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 13 ELOISE AT CHRISTIMASS Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 14 BAMBI (SPECIAL EDITION) Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 15 BARBIE AS THE PRINCESS AND THE PAUPER Lions Gate Home Entertainment**

Top Video Rentals

Pos. TITLE: Artist/Import/Label

- 1 NATIONAL TREASURE Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Universal Studios Home Video**
- 2 MEET THE FOCKERS Universal Studios Home Video**
- 3 HITCH Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment/Sony Pictures Home Entertainment**
- 4 I, ROBOT 20th Century Fox**
- 5 COLLATERAL DreamWorks Home Entertainment/Universal Studios Home Video**
- 6 LADDER 49 Touchstone Home Video/Buena Vista Home Entertainment**
- 7 DODGEBALL: A TRUE UNDERDOG STORY FoxVideo**
- 8 NAPOLEON DYNAMITE FoxVideo**
- 9 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY Universal Studios Home Video**
- 10 THE NOTEBOOK New Line Home Entertainment/Warner Home Video**

All In The Family

Year's Top Sellers Put The Home In Home Video

LOS ANGELES—Family entertainment reigns supreme on the 2005 year-end home video charts.

While the widescreen edition of "The Incredibles" (Walt Disney Home Entertainment/Buena Vista Home Entertainment) earns the No. 1 position on the Top DVD Sales Titles year-end chart, the top 10 also includes six other family-oriented titles.

"Elf" (New Line Home Entertainment/Warner Home Video) is No. 2, and the full-screen edition of "The Incredibles" is No. 3. The widescreen "Shrek 2" (DreamWorks Home Entertainment/Universal Studios Home Video) is No. 5, with its pan-and-scan version at No. 8. Separate editions of "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" (WHV) hold the No. 7 and No. 10 spots.

The year-end DVD sales results are not surprising, according to industry executives.

"Family titles always end up being in the majority of top five and top 10 titles each year," says Kelly Sooter, domestic head of DreamWorks Home Entertainment. "As DVD broadened and player prices decreased over the last few years,

families were buying home video product in full force. Action has been the No. 2 genre for years now because DVD was initially driven by men. I don't think it is anything different than the last few years."

Indeed, the other sell-through DVD titles in the top 10 are mainly action titles, with the widescreen special edition of "Spider-Man 2" (Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment) at No. 6 and the special extended edition of "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" (New Line/WHV) at No. 9.

Fox Video's "Napoleon Dynamite" is the sole comedy on the year-end DVD sales chart, at No. 4.

Because of the appeal of family DVDs, Buena Vista Home Entertainment ends the year as the No. 1 DVD Sales Distributing Label. (That chart is available online at billboard.com.)

The runaway success of "Napoleon Dynamite" and "Star Wars: Episode III—Revenge of the Sith" (No. 14, widescreen and No. 48, full screen on the Top DVD Sales Titles chart) earned Fox Video the No. 1 slot on the Top DVD Sales Labels chart.

The family-friendly year is also reflected on the Top VHS Sales Titles chart.

Nine out of the top 10 titles in the format are family movies, including the No. 1 "Shrek 2," the No. 2 "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" and the No. 3 "Shrek" (DreamWorks).

Though VHS is certainly a dying format—in industry executives rarely even mention it anymore—the players are likely to end up in kids' rooms because of their ease of use before they are permanently retired.

"The price of DVD players has fueled the hardware penetration across the U.S. and is killing off VHS at a very fast pace," says Dave Alder, executive VP for Los Angeles-based Virgin Entertainment.

WHV is the No. 1 VHS Sales Distributing Label of 2005.

In the music DVD category, a variety of musical genres topped the year at the end of the charts.

The Jay-Z/Linkin Park CD/DVD combo "MTV Ultimate Mash-Ups Presents: Collision Course" (Roc-A-Fella/Warner Bros./Warner Music Vision) rules the Top Music Video Sales Titles chart, while projects from Creed, Josh Groban, U2 and the Eagles hold the No. 2 through No. 5 positions, respectively.

Bryan Everitt, director of music operations for the Amarillo, Texas-based Hastings chain, says, "Music DVDs continue to be exciting to customers. The category was pretty much right about where we were last year sales-wise. The releases aren't as strong as last year, but the overall selection is broader." ***

The widescreen and pan-and-scan versions of "Shrek 2" are among the top 10 DVD sales titles for 2005.

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TOURING BY DIANE COETZER

South African Market Comes Of Age

JOHANNESBURG—More than a decade after the end of the apartheid era, during which many acts shunned South Africa, the country is becoming a key destination for many international performers.

U.S. R&B artists John Legend, Missy Elliott and Lela James all played in the country in December. In March 2006, several overseas acts will arrive for a major festival series. And in April, Robbie Williams will open his global tour here.

Cape Town, South Africa-based Big Concerts owner Attie Van Wyk credits the increased activity to local promoters' growing experience and the establishment of an infrastructure appropriate for major live events.

South Africa is now "the best-kept secret on the touring circuit," Van Wyk says. "Why else would we be able to bring Bryan Adams back here four times [since 1994]?"

Big Concerts is promoting Adams' four arena and outdoor shows

during March. "He loves it here," Van Wyk says. "And someone like Bryan will talk to his buddies—word-of-mouth helps predispose artists towards playing here."

Johannesburg-based Morris Roda Productions booked Legend for December shows in Johannesburg (in a 5,000-capacity venue) and Cape Town (in a 3,000-seat hall), as part of the ongoing multi-artist Pan-African MTV Base Live concert series.

"Everyone I know who's been [there] said [South Africa] was beautiful, the people were beautiful, and it was a nice mixture of Africa and Western culture," Legend says. "I knew from friends that my music was popular [there], so I was excited to go."

MTV Networks Africa VP/GM Alex Okosi says the MTV shows provide a platform for local acts to perform alongside global names, "building bridges between themselves and international artists."

There is also a practical objective, he admits, with MTV recording the concerts to compensate for a dearth of quality music videos featuring African artists.

The South African live market is now "coming of age," says veteran Johannesburg-based promoter Mike Fuller, who is managing director of Famous Concerts.

"During the apartheid years," Fuller says, "we were isolated—correctly so, because it helped to bring change. We've had to catch up." Indeed, many artists boycotted playing South Africa until apartheid was banished.

Fuller insists that nowadays for international artists, the country is at "the same level as playing London or Berlin, whether you're talking hotels or technical equipment or the business dealings of the top promoters."

Internationally, South Africa is becoming "a real force," Van Wyk says. However, he adds, "it's [still] a question of an artist being in our mode and us being able to make a bid that is accepted."

In late 2001 the value of the South African rand fell sharply on global currency markets, but a stronger exchange rate now makes the market more attractive, Van Wyk notes.

In March, Big Concerts is promoting a multi-artist, Coca-Cola-sponsored, one-day festival series with national public top 40 radio station SPM as a media partner. The Coca-Cola Massive Mix festival will visit the 40,000-capacity Supersport Park in Centurion, near Pretoria, on March 18; the 52,000-capacity ABSA Stadium in Durban on March 21; and the 45,000-capacity Point Stadium in Cape Town on March 25.

The lineup is not yet finalized, but such home-grown acts as the Finkelsteins and Prime Circle will share the bill with U.S. rock act Seether, Canada's Simple Plan, Finland's the Rasmus and British DJ Fatboy Slim.

SFM program manager Nick Grubb says a final decision has not been made on how much of each show will be featured on-air. He adds that a key role for SPM in a festival like Massive Mix lies in helping promoters reach sponsors.

"We're able to provide airtime to the promoter to create really attractive sponsorship packages," Grubb says.

South Africa's post-apartheid standing remains a strong draw for many artists, including jazz saxophonist Kirk Whalum, who appeared Dec. 17 at Limpopo Province's Mapungubwe Jazz Festival.

Whalum originally visited the country 11 years ago as part of Whitney Houston's band. "The biggest moment in my life and career so far happened in South Africa," he says, "when I stood onstage with Whitney Houston in the year of the country's first democratic elections."

Fuller admits the travel time to South Africa remains off-putting for some international acts. But he says, "artists thoroughly enjoy playing here. We've got a wonderful new democracy and a population that loves concerts—and shows [that] they enjoy them." ***



JOHN LEGEND was one of the artists who played South Africa in 2005.

TOURING BY JILL KIPNIS

Cirque Du Soleil Takes 'Delirium' On Tour

LOS ANGELES—Cirque Du Soleil is taking its artistry out from under the big top for "Delirium."

The new show will be the French-Canadian troupe's first tour staged in arenas and its first to feature musicians and singers central stage, as opposed to its usual focus on acrobatics.

"This show will be quite spectacular with big effects for the arenas, but at the same time, will be very touching," says Michel Lemieux, creator and director of "Delirium" with partner Victor Pilon. "The skeleton of the show is music with an urban, tribal beat. After 20 years, Cirque Du Soleil is not sitting on their success."

Lemieux says that Cirque Du Soleil founder and CEO Guy Laliberté and Chair/General Entertainment approached him and Pilon to create "Delirium" after the duo produced a 20th-anniversary show in honor of the troupe at the Montreal Jazz Festival last year.

They were asked to take that show—an homage to the music of Cirque Du Soleil featuring multimedia elements and musicians—and enlarge it for a tour.

Jonathan Hochwald, executive VP of creative development for CCE, says that his company has been seeking a partnership with Cirque Du Soleil for years, but had to wait for the right opportunity.

"Cirque Du Soleil is the Pixar of live entertainment," Hochwald says. "They've never had a show that didn't work."

Indeed, Cirque Du Soleil currently has 11 different shows running: six big top tours and five resident shows. Hochwald says that CCE was brought in to provide expertise on how to market an arena show. Cirque Du Soleil's traditional big top presentations typically stay in a market for six to eight weeks, while "Delirium" will go to markets

that support shorter runs in larger venues.

"Delirium" will revolve around 21 musical compositions that have been featured in previous Cirque Du Soleil shows.

"The story of the show is a character who escaped his world because he found it too formal," Lemieux explains. "He goes on this dreamlike trip, in which he meets lots of different characters who tell him to find his heartbeat. When he comes back to his planet, he changes the people there with the new things he has learned."

The set was specially designed to give all seats a clear view. The 160-foot stage is narrow and divided into two parts, with 80 feet of projection on both sides. Lemieux says it is "like the equivalent of four IMAX screens" on the main sides of the arena.

Patti-Anne Tarlton, director

The Cirque Du Soleil troupe rehearses "Delirium," the first show the company has ever taken to arenas.



of programming and event marketing at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto, which is hosting "Delirium" Feb. 20-21, expects the show to sell out quickly. The average capacity of the venues on the tour's first leg is 10,000.

"I expect that we will see a large number of new fans," Tarlton adds. "And, fans that have seen Cirque under the big top and in the theater setting in Las

Vegas will welcome the opportunity to see the new Cirque concert experience."

Tickets will be available for roughly \$100, a price that Hochwald says "reflects the size of the show," which is a 20-truck production.

"Part of our responsibility is to get a message across that there is value for that price when you see what we've built," Hochwald says.

CCE is garnering advance press for the show by giving tours of the rehearsal space, an abandoned car factory in remote Canada.

Additionally, an animated TV spot will announce on-sales. The first leg will begin Jan. 26 at the Bell Centre in Montreal, and runs through mid-February in Toronto.

Upcoming legs will be announced soon. ***

GROSS/ GROSS PERCENT	ARTIST(S) Venue, Date	Attendance	Promoter
1 \$3,400,861 100% 100%	U2, INSTITUTE TD Banknorth Garden, Boston, Dec. 4-5	34,503	The Next Adventure, Tea Party Concerts
2 \$1,839,020 100% 100%	U2, KANYE WEST Savvis Center, St. Louis, Dec. 14	19,923	The Next Adventure, Clear Channel Entertainment
3 \$1,819,610 100% 100%	DEPECHE MODE, THE BRAVERY Margarita Square Garden, New York, Dec. 7-8	20,316	Ron Delaney Presents
4 \$1,791,497 100% 100%	U2, INSTITUTE Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Dec. 10	19,765	The Next Adventure, Belkin Productions
5 \$1,711,094 100% 100%	U2, INSTITUTE HSBC Arena, Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 8	18,926	The Next Adventure, Ron Delaney Presents
6 \$1,709,317 100% 100%	U2, KANYE WEST Delta Center, Salt Lake City, Dec. 12	18,197	The Next Adventure, Bill Graham Presents, Chuck Harris Presents
7 \$1,672,440 100% 100%	U2, INSTITUTE Charlotte Bobcats Arena, Charlotte, N.C., Dec. 12	17,604	The Next Adventure, The Celler Door Cos.
8 \$1,670,879 100% 100%	U2, KANYE WEST Rose Garden, Portland, Ore., Dec. 13	18,233	The Next Adventure, Bill Graham Presents
9 \$1,574,811 100% 100%	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Dec. 2-3 (includes multiple shows)	40,161	Belkin Productions
10 \$1,542,471 100% 100%	U2, INSTITUTE Hardrock City Center, Hartford, Conn., Dec. 7	18,165	The Next Adventure, Jim Koplik Presents
11 \$1,505,205 100% 100%	AEROSMITH, LENNY KRAVITZ United Center, Chicago, Dec. 10	19,758	Elevated Concerts
12 \$1,500,834 100% 100%	U2, KANYE WEST Sweet Center, Omaha, Neb., Dec. 15	18,134	The Next Adventure, Clear Channel Entertainment
13 \$1,465,426 100% 100%	LUIS MIGUEL American Airlines Arena, Miami, Nov. 20-21	19,353	NYK Productions
14 \$1,412,565 100% 100%	ANDREA BOCELLI Savvis Center, Fresno, Calif., Dec. 8	12,240	Fresno Grand Opera, PED Tours, Classic Ensemble
15 \$1,292,227 100% 100%	AEROSMITH, LENNY KRAVITZ Pepsi Center, Denver, Dec. 13	15,462	The Celler Door Cos., Palace Sports & Entertainment
16 \$1,178,576 100% 100%	DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, SOULIVE Air Canada Centre, Toronto, Dec. 4	17,325	House of Blues Canada
17 \$1,125,087 100% 100%	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA Madison Square Garden, New York, Dec. 13	24,320	Electric Factory Concerts
18 \$1,102,810 100% 100%	MEGATON 2006: DADDY YANKEE, TEGO CALDERON & OTHERS Madison Square Garden, New York, Dec. 24	13,870	Solish MusicCo Presents, SBE Promotions
19 \$977,280 100% 100%	DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, SOULIVE, MIKE DOUGHTY Madison Square Garden, New York, Dec. 3	18,708	Ron Delaney Presents
20 \$946,244 100% 100%	DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, MIKE DOUGHTY Madison Square Garden, Philadelphia, Dec. 10	18,107	Electric Factory Concerts
21 \$930,151 100% 100%	DEPECHE MODE, THE RAVEONETTES HP Pavilion, San Jose, Calif., Nov. 18	13,343	Another Planet Entertainment
22 \$926,650 100% 100%	KROQ ALMOST ACOUSTIC CHRISTMAS: RISE AGAINST & OTHERS Gibson Amphitheatre, Universal City, Calif., Dec. 15-16	12,842	House of Blues Canada
23 \$920,972 100% 100%	GWEN STEFANI, CIARA Air Canada Centre, Toronto, Dec. 8	15,274	House of Blues Canada
24 \$896,760 100% 100%	AEROSMITH, LENNY KRAVITZ Hennepin County, Minneapolis, Dec. 10	10,480	In-house
25 \$895,330 100% 100%	AEROSMITH, LENNY KRAVITZ Target Center, Minneapolis, Dec. 8	10,885	Bluel
26 \$860,999 100% 100%	ELTON JOHN Cottis Center, Indianapolis, Nov. 18	14,680	The Celler Door Cos.
27 \$860,286 100% 100%	DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, SOULIVE Joe Louis Arena, Detroit, Dec. 3	18,112	The Celler Door Cos.
28 \$833,852 100% 100%	GWEN STEFANI, M.I.A. Rexall Place, Edmonton, Alberta, Nov. 18	13,543	House of Blues Canada
29 \$818,209 100% 100%	GWEN STEFANI, M.I.A. General Motors Place, Vancouver, Nov. 20	13,222	House of Blues Canada
30 \$799,813 100% 100%	NEIL DIAMOND Pepsi Center, Denver, Dec. 19	13,332	Concerts West/AEG Live, Set Bonafede, Aarprom Group
31 \$797,218 100% 100%	NEIL DIAMOND L'Espresso, West Valley City, Utah, Dec. 19	12,125	Concerts West/AEG Live, Set Bonafede, Aarprom Group
32 \$775,125 100% 100%	JAMES TAYLOR Bordeaux Hall, Atlantic City, N.J., Dec. 17	7,798	LPG Benefit Arts
33 \$737,803 100% 100%	GWEN STEFANI, M.I.A. MHS Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Nov. 13	12,050	House of Blues Canada
34 \$742,942 100% 100%	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA American Airlines Center, Dallas, Dec. 17 (includes multiple shows)	29,500	House of Blues Canada, PACE Concerts
35 \$652,995 100% 100%	NEIL DIAMOND Kemper Arena, Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 15	10,926	Concerts West/AEG Live, Set Bonafede, Aarprom Group

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On The Road

RAY WADDELL rwaddell@billboard.com

Unique Resolutions

Touring Biz Promises Professional, Personal Improvement

'Tis the season for resolutions. For those of us who do resolve to make personal or professional changes on the cusp of a new year, the resolutions tend to uniquely reflect individual perspectives.

For instance, a manager's resolutions tend to center on clients, their accomplishments and goals. Here is the new year's resolution that Principle Artists managing director Paul McGuinness, manager of U2, e-mailed to me:

"This was such a great year for U2. A No. 1 album in 20 countries, 110 shows all sold out, 3.3 million tickets sold, 100% of the tickets we put on sale. Nine million-plus sold of the current record, 3 million catalog, 2 million DVDs. U2 has never been bigger or better. Next year after Mexico, South America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, we will end the Vertigo tour in Honolulu.

"Then it will be fun to concentrate on Principle's other artists," McGuinness continues. "PJ Harvey will be making a record. Also, the Rapture will record and tour. Paddy Casey will break out of Ireland, where he is quintuple-platinum, a challenge for Sony.

"The most unusual client project is the CBS network series with magician Keith Barry. 2006 is going to be a great year for Principle Management."

Similarly, corporate heads tend to single-mindedly focus on their businesses and realizing their potential, while constantly looking ahead. Ticketmaster chairman Terry Barnes resolves: "I look forward to expanding our new TicketExchange program in order to provide a safe, secure, event-authorized secondary-market channel for fans to buy and sell valid event tickets. The after-market isn't going away, and we're taking an active role in helping to legitimize it so our clients and consumers can enjoy the benefits of ticket resale without risk of fraud."

Promoters seem to think about self-preservation. "My new year's resolution is [to] break some new headlines so that I will still have a job in five years," says Randy Phillips, president/CEO of AEG Live.

Artists, on the other hand, tend to be a little more philosophical. Rock legend Steve Miller offers this resolution: "Since happiness is not a destination, it's a way of traveling. I plan to treat my guitar 'Tuffy' better on the road in 2006."

Patterson Hood of Drive-By Truckers sounds like a guy who wants to treat himself a little better on the road. His resolution for 2006? "I hope for more time off, at least during my 'off' time," the singer/guitarist/songwriter says. With a new DBT album and a solo album in the can and a long stretch of dates booked, good

luck with that, sir.

As for myself, I can proudly say I stuck to my own resolution for 2005, namely not to say "yeah, yeah, yeah" really fast. I had previously dropped "absolutely" from my written and spoken vocabulary.

For 2006, I resolve not to preface any sentence by saying "really." If it is so clear, I do not need to state the obvious. And I also pledge not to say "of course" inappropriately or repeat people's questions back to them. And I will not, under any circumstances, say something "is what it is."



Photo: © Chuck Werning/epic.com

Road warrior STEVE MILLER promises that in 2006, he will be much kinder to his guitar, 'Tuffy,' while he is on tour.

BY RAY WADDELL

Kevin Lyman

As the founder and "camp counselor" of the Vans Warped tour, Kevin Lyman has been bringing punk music to skater kids around the world for more than a decade.

A fierce independent who has survived outside the touring industry mainstream, Lyman and his 4Fini Productions (named after his daughter's nickname) have expanded to include partnerships in two labels—SideOneDummy Records (Flogging Molly, Gogol Bordello) and Warcon Records (with Concrete Marketing's Bob Chiappardi)—and another successful international touring property in the Taste of Chaos tour.

Warped, the longest-running touring festival, enjoyed its best year in 2005 with more than 700,000 tickets sold. Creative Artists Agency agent Darryl Eaton has partnered with Lyman on Warped and Taste of Chaos from the beginning. "I have worked with Kevin for close to 13 years now on multiple projects," Eaton says. "His tireless enthusiasm, creativity and sense of fair play is really a breath of fresh air for our business and really helps to keep this job exciting."

Lyman was predictably on the go when Billboard caught up with him via cell phone in a New York cab, en route to a hot dog stand.

Q: What was the concept in launching Warped?

A: The concept was trying to go back to the roots, supporting skating and music. A lot of bands were touring the club circuit, and I didn't think they were getting a lot of support. There wasn't quite a scene, and I thought that if we all went out and supported each other with a cheap ticket price, we could maybe go build something.

We almost didn't make it past the first year. I was lucky enough to have a 15-minute meeting with the CEO of Vans at the time and convinced him that I could help him promote amateur skating if he would be part of this event, and in 1996 it became the Vans Warped tour. They allowed us to go to the second year financially. For the promoters that lost money on the first year we pretty much had to go to play for nothing the second year to get there.

Q: In 2000, Warped was sold to Launch. What brought that on?
A: During the dot-com craze, if you didn't make a dot-com entrepreneur deal, I guess you weren't an entrepreneur. Which explained in our face.

Q: What went wrong?
A: After the crest in the dot-com boom, I guess they were on the brink of potentially going out

of business and they had an opportunity to be purchased by Yahoo, and they're still with Yahoo. It was just crazy. The night before the tour started we were sitting in the parking lot thinking the whole concept and tour would be dragged into potential bankruptcy with them.

But we ended up getting the

rights back to the tour in 2004. They owed us a bunch of money—this crazy deal where the only people that made money were the lawyers—and we owed a bunch of money for taxes on the deal, and that's when Vans came in and purchased a large chunk of the equity from us so we could keep it going. Me and Darryl still own part of the tour, and Vans is the majority owner.

Q: You have said that Warped turns its audience over completely every three to four years. What are the challenges in that?
A: By the time the Warped kid hits 18, 19 years, they're moving on to other things. That's fine, because we're getting their younger brothers and sisters who want to see what their siblings had such a great time at.

But it forces you not to rest on your laurels. I'm accused of being a workaholic sometimes, but you can't sit back. I think that's what happens with some of these other properties, everyone sits back and takes things for granted.

Q: What is the key to breaking live entertainment properties in international markets?

A: When we took Warped overseas in 1997, we met some resistance, I felt, from the establishment in some territories. It's hard to build a package that



crosses borders. A lineup in Paris doesn't make sense when you cross into Germany.

We just finished [an international run of] Taste of Chaos, and I really felt like because we brought a band like Funeral for a Friend from the U.K. around the world with us that we were embraced by the industry in the U.K., the agents, the record labels, the managers. They really stepped out and supported the project and are talking about next year already. We were able to take bands like Story of the Year, who had never been overseas, and they just received an offer that was two-thirds of what we received for the whole package [for their second time into Australia in May.

Q: So industry support is key first and foremost?

A: Absolutely. It's hard to break bands on a worldwide level; labels aren't having much success

in this nice world. It's about getting them to understand what we our tours are a good thing to support and be part of.

Q: The Vans-Warped relationship is the longest-running in touring. What makes a sponsorship work?
A: I think it's about delivering value... If you look at [the Billboard] Boxscores, our ticket price is \$23.75, and the average of the top 20 shows was \$43. If we would have gone with a \$43 ticket, we would have been one of the top [grossing] tours in the country last year.

For the sponsors, we deliver. We don't overprice our packages, we're very competitive. And we're a tour that can tell you we're going to be around in 2007.

Q: When you talk about the revenue streams of Warped, how is it divided between ticket sales and sponsorships?

A: We've never quite broken

even on our ticket sales. We had 800 people on the road last year. If we make any money, it's through the sponsorships. I'd say about 30% of gross revenue comes from sponsorships.

Q: Are multi-act tours like Warped or Taste of Chaos the best way to break an act now, if you do not have a TV show?

A: Absolutely. There are too many bands trying to tour right now. With Warped, you put them all together, it takes the traffic out of the market. But I never wanted Warped to be the end-all, [with] the pressure sometimes I'm getting from kids in bands calling me saying if they don't get on Warped they'll get dropped from their label. That's not really fair, either. That's a lot of pressure. We had over 1,000 bands submit this year through CAA, and we ended up booking about 125 throughout the tour.

We book bands sometimes, then the record doesn't come out, but we honor our word and bring them out on the tour because I believe these bands should be able to make a career touring. A lot of these bands aren't dependent on selling records now.

And our marketing is so viral through the Internet now, and the kids are so tuned in that we just have to get the word out. We went on sale with Taste on the Internet presale and without spending a dollar sold almost 2,000 tickets in Los Angeles.

Q: How healthy is the touring business right now?

A: I think the club business is very strong. But there are so many bands trying to fill these clubs, people are holding club dates all the way into June and July now. Kids are going back to live music—they like going to shows. And I think Warped turned a lot of them on to it for the first time.

Billboard

DIGITAL

ENTERTAINMENT

 JAN
7
2006

BY ANTONY BRUNO

ON THE COUCH

Home Entertainment Systems Will Grab CES Spotlight

It is big, loud and incredibly crowded. But the annual International Consumer Electronics Show remains the place to be every January to see the latest entertainment products and trends.

The home entertainment market is the focus of this year's event. At the 2005 conference, major players like Sony, Samsung, Microsoft and others pledged to create products that would free digital content from the confines of the computer hard drive and share it with widescreen TVs and surround sound systems.

At the event taking place Jan. 5-8 in Las Vegas, attendees will see how they have delivered on that promise.

"Whatever content I have, I'm going to be able to use it, view it and watch it any way I want it," says Karen Chupka, VP of events and conferences for the Consumer Electronics Assn., which produces the event. "While there's been a lot of promise of that in the past, this is the year you're really going to see it on the show floor."

For consumer electronics manufacturers, the digital home is an opportunity to compete in a fresh market. With Apple Computer's iPod still dominating the portable MP3 space for the foreseeable future, the consumer electronics battle for digital music has now shifted to the home.

For content owners, focusing on the home allows them to market digital music to new users—those not interested in carrying the music on portable devices.

The result is a symbiotic relationship that has brought the two camps closer than ever before.

"It helps bring new players into the market," Chupka says. "As technology evolves and as new players start testing the waters, it brings in a whole new audience to the show."

On the consumer electronics side, Sony Electronics is making perhaps

the biggest splash, booking a 25,000-square-foot booth—billed as the show floor's largest—and for the first time is bringing every product division to the event. CEO Howard Stringer is even giving the opening keynote address.

For Sony, this CES is the launch pad for several initiatives across a range of categories. From high-definition TVs to cellular phones to its Walkman line of MP3 devices, Sony is using the event to regain momentum in the face of increasing challenges from Samsung, Microsoft and Apple.

The Sony-led Blu-ray consortium will unveil its plans to launch high-definition DVD, hoping to seize the advantage over the Toshiba-led HD-DVD format.

Another central feature of Sony's presence will be revelations about its much-anticipated PlayStation 3.

Microsoft's Xbox 360 game console, introduced Nov. 22, has stolen the early spotlight. But Sony is expected to release new details about its upcoming platform at CES in hopes of convincing consumers to wait for its 2006 release.

Intel also will be a closely watched participant. The company in August introduced its Viiv (rhymes with "five") media center technology that bundles a number of digital entertainment elements in one package. They include a remote control, easy on/off controls (no logging on or loading), Windows Media Center Edition operating system and software, home-theater-quality sound support, access to online entertainment services and a TV tuner card. The card will allow users to record, pause and rewind live TV and store programming on the hard drive.

So far, only a handful of consumer electronics manufacturers and services have voiced support for the new platform, the most notable being TiVo and MovieLink. But Intel says it is working with a number of computer, consumer electronic and content partners to set interoperability standards so media can move from Viiv computers to home entertainment systems. More details are anticipated at CES.

Microsoft, meanwhile, will give a preview of its new Vista operating system, as well as the many consumer electronics devices that now feature different versions of Windows software.

According to Windows digital media VP Amir Majidmehr, the range of **continued on >>24**

FACT FILE

International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) 2006

What: The annual trade show for consumer electronics

Where: Las Vegas Convention Center

When: Jan. 5-8, 2006

Who: Exhibitors include manufacturers, developers and suppliers of consumer technology, hardware, content, technology delivery systems and related products and services.

Web: cesweb.org

Gadgets Galore: CES is expected to draw some 130,000 attendees.



BY ANTHONY BRUNO

CES: BY THE NUMBERS

ON THE COUCH (cont.)

from >>>23

devices now supporting Windows software is an indication that the battle over whether the PC or the TV will be the hub of the digital living room has ended.

"Our partnerships with consumer electronics companies are the strongest they've ever been," he says. "Everybody put down their swords 12-18 months ago. What you're seeing is that the two are being married together in sort of a peaceful manner."

The upshot of this collective focus on digital entertainment is that content owners have gained powerful new marketing allies in the effort to convert consumers to digital services.

"That is going to be instructive and helpful in terms of raising awareness across the mass consumer market," Gartner G2 analyst

'Digital music needs to move beyond a portable playing experience.'

—MIKE MCGUIRE,
GARTNER G2

lyst Mike McGuire says, "If done properly, it can help broaden consumer awareness of digital media overall and music specifically. Those are going to be important messages for consumers to hear, to see beyond just the offerings from the online music services and the industry itself."

But record labels and other content owners also are keeping a close eye on these announcements, because they desperately need to expand the availability of digital entertainment.

For digital music to grow from the 5% of global music sales it is today to the 25% predicted by 2010, more devices and products that let consumers access their library throughout the home are required.

"It needs to move beyond a simple, portable music playing experience," McGuire says. "That will be very important to build up the environment for digital music and digital media overall."

As a result, more representatives from the content industry are expected to attend the upcoming CES than ever before.

"The thing that happened between last year and this year is that media got onboard," Forrester Research analyst Ted Schadler says. "The joint partnerships, agreements and announcements make it clear media companies are getting with the digital transition."

Not wanting technology to pass them by, TV networks are experimenting boldly with new digital distribution models. For instance, ABC and NBC are offering downloads of hit shows and classics via iTunes and cable video-on-demand outlets. Fox is planning to offer original episodes of "Family Guy" exclusively on the Internet.

According to Schadler, this is an encouraging sign, as consumer electronics manufacturers and content providers must work together more closely if they are to attract consumer attention.

"They need to sell digital experiences, not products," he says. "Consumers want products plus content."

And therein lies the challenge. Despite all the attempts to create interoperable home entertainment networks, adoption remains low because consumers feel they are still too costly and too complicated.

A worldwide consumer survey conducted on behalf of consulting firm Accenture found that 80% of consumers list cost as the primary barrier to buying a digital home system. Only 4% said they could afford a converged system today, and 24% said they believe they never will.

But even as the costs drop, consumers say the complexity of setting up a home network, let alone connecting it to a home entertainment system, is not worth the bother.

The problem is that vendors still make it more difficult to incorporate a competing product into their system in order to promote the ease of use of their own.

Although the company will not have a presence at CES, Apple has aspirations of its own for the digital living room that may overshadow the news coming from the conference.

Apple-watching Web site Think Secret, which has successfully predicted such announcements as the iPod Shuffle and the video iPod, says Apple will introduce its new content delivery strategy in conjunction with its media-centric Mac Mini at the MacWorld Expo conference, to be held just a few weeks after CES.

The new system reportedly will have TiVo-like recording capabilities and also allow users to buy content to either download directly to an iPod or stream to a connected TV, not store on the hard drive.

Given Apple's ability to offer the kind of compelling digital media experience that so far has eluded other providers, some question whether the home entertainment system will cut into the iPod's market after all.

"That's the argument, but it just hasn't been true yet," Schadler says. "Do people need an open system to enjoy digital media, or are they just as happy to get something from just one provider?"

The 2006 International Consumer Electronics Show will feature 199 panels and "SuperSessions," 1.5 million square feet of exhibit space, more than 2,500 exhibitors and 130,000 expected attendees over the course of the four-day event.

As usual, Microsoft chairman/chief software architect Bill Gates will deliver the pre-show keynote address at 6:30 p.m. on Wed., Jan. 4. Many expect a preview of the new Vista Windows operating system, among the other announcements and demonstrations.

Sony Corp. chairman/CEO Howard Stringer will make the opening keynote address at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 5. Intel CEO Paul Otellini will deliver his keynote later that day at 4:30 p.m.

Yahoo chairman/CEO Terry Semel will take the keynote stage at 9 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 6. Google co-founder and president of products Larry Page will close the keynote program at 4 p.m.

The industry insider series, part of the conference's Innovations Plus program, will kick off with Dell founder and chairman Michael Dell at 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 5.

Other noteworthy panels include "The Return of Radio" on Jan. 5, which will focus on the evolution of the radio market through satellite and high-definition radio. Moderated by IDC analyst Susan Kevorkian, panelists include iBiquity Digital's Bob Struble, XM Satellite Radio's Hugh Panero, Texas Instruments' John Gardner and Clear Channel Radio's Jeff Littlejohn.

The digital home is a major theme of the show, highlighted by the Connected Home Entertainment TechZone—a showcase of the latest in media servers and whole-house audio and video. Individual TechZones also will highlight achievements made in the audio industry, focusing on such segments as portable audio, mobile audio, accessories, speakers and components, Internet audio and digital content storage.

Finally, the Studio@Home TechZone, part of the Innovations Plus program, will feature home studio products like home recording and editing products, electronic music creation software, "producer" recording and editing products and video editing and production tools.

On the Agenda: CES will host nearly 200 panel discussions.



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2006 is going to be a hot year for new talent. These 10 faces to watch represent our picks. We have put our musical ears to the test and found rising stars across all genres—country, Christian, pop, classical, Latin, dance, R&B, jazz and rock. These multitalented artists either have a highly anticipated debut album ready to come out in the first quarter or have been under-the-radar and are expected to explode at any moment. Enjoy!

—TAMARA CONNIFF



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ARCTIC MONKEYS

DOMINO RECORDINGS

Of the coolest British newcomers to emerge in 2005, Sheffield's Arctic Monkeys climbed to the top of the heap.

"Far and away, there hasn't been a band which has created this kind of a buzz amongst record companies and publishers this year," says Mike Smith, EMI Music Publishing U.K. senior VP/director of A&R. Smith was instrumental in signing the band to a long-term, worldwide, exclusive publishing deal this year.

Domino Recordings, home to Franz Ferdinand, came out on top amid frenzied label interest to ink the four-piece to a recording contract.

Lifted by a dedicated fan base and an online marketing campaign, Arctic Monkeys' Oct. 17 debut single, "I Bet That You Look Good in the Dancefloor," vaulted to the top spot at home and to No. 7 on the *Billboard* Eurochart Singles chart.

Because of that success, interest is building for the band's forthcoming album, "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not," which will be released locally Jan. 30. The album will be preceded by a second single, "When the Sun Goes Down."

Details on the act's U.S. push will be released this month. —Lars Brandle

SHANNON BROWN

WARNER BROS.

After 11 years in Nashville, Shannon Brown is not a newcomer to the country music industry. But Warner Bros. is launching her label debut with all the energy and innovation usually associated with a promising new artist.

In a creative initiative, Warner Bros. teamed with AOL Music to introduce Brown to the online audience through a six-part Web video series. Titled "This Is Shannon Brown," it launched on aol-music.com last summer. In site-specific video snippets, the series offers a behind-the-scenes look at everything involved in releasing a new album and introducing an artist who has not yet become a household name.

Big & Rich's John Rich produced Brown's new album, due Feb. 28.

"She's been around the block a couple of times and hasn't been able to break through," he says, referring to her time on *Arista* Nashville and sister label BNA Records between 1997 and 2002. "Shannon and I finally captured musically what she is all about. We wrote some big old hits. Her head's in the right place, and she's going to come out and absolutely rock'n'roll."

The Iowa native's debut single, "Corn Fed," is currently on the *Billboard* Hot Country Songs chart.

—Phyllis Stark

DECEMBERADIO SLANTED

Spring Hill Music Group's new Slanted imprint gained critical kudos for introducing torchy rock vocalist Charity Von, but in 2006 look for Decemberadio to put the scrappy indie label on the dial in a big way.

Formed in 1998, this Blacksburg, Va.-based rock outfit cites such influences as Aerosmith, Lenny Kravitz and the Black Crowes, and serves up hard rock with a Southern flavor.

The group is the resident worship band for Camp Boreas's Deep Freeze youth camps near Concord, N.H., where it has developed a rabid teen fan base. It was voted breakout band of the year by radio stations attending the 2005 Rock Summit, and it has already scored slots on Atlanta-Fest and Rock the Universe, two of Christian music's largest festivals.

"You meet these guys and think, 'Wow, great guys.' You see and hear them play and go, 'Wow! They rock!'" says David Ecrement, director of marketing for Slanted. "We will be placing heavy emphasis on the live aspect of what they do. That's where the dots really connect."

Produced by Scotty Wilbanks (Third Day, Overflow, NewSong), the band's debut is slated for late summer/early fall. Slanted is distributed by Warner Bros.-owned World Distribution. —Deborah Evans Price

TEDDY GEIGER

COLUMBIA RECORDS

Teddy Geiger's debut album, "Underage Thinking," does not come out until Feb. 28 on Columbia Records, but the 17-year-old from Rochester, N.Y., is already poised to be everyone's next musical sweetheart. His songwriting and guitar work are drawing comparisons to a teenage John Mayer for good reason. Geiger's tunes are full of smart—but not precocious—lyrics and catchy melodies. First single "For You I Will (Confidence)" goes to radio this month.

Producer/songwriter Billy Mann discovered the self-taught musician during auditions for VH1's "In Search of the New Pertridge Family." Geiger did not land the coveted role of Keith Partridge, but got something much better: a recording contract.

In the meantime, Geiger, who was featured in Teen People's "What's Next" issue, has found another vehicle to make him a TV personality. He has a recurring role as a rising young pop star—talk about type-casting—in the new CBS series "Love Monkey." The dramedy, which stars Tom Cavanaugh and Jason Priestley, debuts Jan. 17. The initial episodes will feature a number of Geiger's songs.

The singer is also scheduled to appear on "CBS Saturday Morning" Jan. 28. —Melinda Newman

ANJA HARTEROS

RCA RED SEAL

In the opera world, the focus is on rising 32-year-old German soprano Anja Harteros.

Winner of the 1999 Singer of the World competition in Cardiff, Wales—a prize given in other years to such singers as Karita Mattila and Dmitri Hvorostovsky, who have achieved international success—Harteros has gone on to sing at the Vienna State Opera, the Salzburg Festival and the Metropolitan Opera, where she made her debut in the 2003-04 season. She has remained a hidden gem, but that is all about to change.

Last month, Harteros went into the studio to record a disc of Mozart opera and concert arias (plus Haydn's "Scena Di Berenice" with the Vienna Symphony and conductor Pinchas Steinberg. Her debut album is slated for release on RCA Red Seal this summer.

"She has an incredible voice, but she also possesses a stage charisma and a charm that we believe will connect directly to the hearts of both opera aficionados and the broader public," says Gilbert Hetherwick, president of Sony BMG Masterworks. "We believe that for her, all of the planets are lining up for a major career."

—Anastasia Tsoules



TO WATCH

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JEREMÍAS

UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINO

In December, Venezuelan singer/songwriter Jeremías played an impromptu show at the offices of his label, Universal Music Latino. Armed only with an acoustic guitar, he showcased his compelling voice—reminiscent of Joen Manuel Serrat and Joaquín Sabina—strong melodies and beautifully crafted, often witty lyrics. (One song was about a man who catches his wife and best friend in a compromising situation.)

Those were the elements that led Universal to sign Jeremías, whose real name is Carlos Eduardo López Avila. The label, which believes his songs will strike a chord with a broad audience, has made the singer a priority for 2006.

Prior to Universal, Jeremías had minor success with his self-titled debut on Indie Avile Records. Some radio hits in Puerto Rico brought him to the attention of Universal VP of A&R Walter Kolm, who in turn took him to Universal Latino president John Echevarria.

"He is a quality artist with popular appeal," Echevarria notes.

This month, Jeremías' first single, "Uno Y Uno," will ship to radio simultaneously in the United States and Latin America. His as-yet-untitled album is due in the first quarter.

—Lella Cobo



MYLO

BREASTFEED/RCA

Dance music execs are always searching for an artist that they can respectfully cross over, one that can satisfy the expectations of dance fans and a pop audience. In Mylo, they get both.

Mylo, aka Myles MacInnes, creates original music that merges dance's reigning electro sound with rock and pop, sometimes literally. His biggest overseas hit is a fully licensed mash-up of Miami Sound Machine's puffy "Doctor Beat" and his own bleepy "Drop the Pressure." Expect it to do some damage on the Hot Dance Club Play chart upon its U.S. release.

The Scotsman's debut album, cheekily titled "Destroy Rock'n'Roll," is already a grass-roots smash in the United Kingdom, having sold close to 300,000 units on Mylo's own Breastfeed label. Those numbers prompted major-label interest statewide, and Breastfeed/RCA will release "Destroy" Feb. 7 in the United States. If Europe is any indicator, potential for sales is great.

A conceptual cousin to Madonna producer Stuart Price (aka electronic artist Les Rythmes Digitales) and LCD Soundsystem frontman/DFA co-founder James Murphy, Mylo mixes formats as well as genres. He tours as a DJ, but also has a full live band, which he will take on the road in the United States. —Kerri Mason



NE-YO

DEF JAM

Nicknamed Ne-Yo after the movie character Neo in "The Matrix," the 22-year-old R&B singer has already made people sit up and take notice of his skills.

With super producer Scott Storch and Kam Houf, he co-wrote Mario's long-running R&B/pop hit "Let Me Love You," which recently topped two Billboard Music Awards. In addition to writing credits for Mary J. Blige, B2K, Faith Evans and Musiq, Ne-Yo (born Shaffer C. Smith) is ready to add another milestone to his résumé. On Feb. 28, his Def Jam album will debut, under the fitting title "In My Own Words."

Meanwhile, the Arkansas-to-Las Vegas transplant already has two successful singles under his belt. "Stay" featuring Peedi Crack peaked at No. 36 on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart, while "So Sick" is currently No. 22.

His brand of melodic R&B has been featured on BET Style, MSNBC and MTV, where he was profiled on "You Hear It First." After wooing fans last summer on a Teen People-sponsored listening-lounge tour with labelmates Rihanna and Teaira Marí, which was hosted by Def Jam honcho Jay-Z, Ne-Yo went on to open for John Legend.

—Gail Mitchell



THE SWORD

KEMADO RECORDS

There will be no shortage of hard rock bands primed for stellar success in 2006, with big things expected from Victory's Hawthorne Heights, Cantigny Media's Lacuna Coil, Trustkill's Bleeding Through and Epitaph's My Chemical Romance, among others. But old-fashioned metal will not be left out, and new act the Sword is expected to wave the flag for the genre.

The Austin-based quartet owns a monstrous sound, one that echoes the riffs of Black Sabbath and the psychedelic stodge of stoner rock heroes Kyuss. Thanks to nine guitar anthems that slash and hack their way through the band's self-titled debut, which is due Feb. 14, the set is already turning heads with songs like "Winter's Wolves" and garnering rave reviews both locally and nationally.

The band first won over fans and critics alike at last year's South by Southwest music conference and earned a touring slot with... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead. Signed to the hipster-friendly Kemado Records, the Sword should find itself embraced by the same fan base that follows such acts as Sub Pop's Comets on Fire and Matador's Early Man.

—Todd Martens



CHRISTIAN SCOTT

CONCORD JAZZ

While dozens of technically proficient artists get churned out of jazz programs each year, a rare few express themselves with creativity and vision. Enter Christian Scott.

The 22-year-old trumpeter tops the class of upstarts with his exhilarating March 28 debut, "Rewind That," on Concord Jazz.

With a maturity engendered by his mentoring uncle—jazz saxophonist Donald Harrison—Scott boasts a singular breathy tone. He sounds intent on breaking straight-ahead jazz codes with his funk- and rock-infused style, marked by odd meters, urgent grooves and passionate romancing.

Scott is getting the royal treatment at Concord. The label's marketing plan calls for club showcases and inclusion on free sampler discs at retail outlets. In addition, his debut CD will be sold at the developing-artist price of \$12.99.

"We're pricing Christian's album aggressively to encourage the cost-conscious consumer to discover a young artist who plays with conviction," Concord Music Group GM Gene Rumsey says. "We feel Christian can capture the imaginations of jazz fans and music lovers."

—Dan Ouellette



The Secrets Of Voting

The Grammy Awards. How do legacy artists get bundled with rap stars? Who decides the nominees for the coveted album of the year? Does it make sense to have Mariah Carey, Paul McCartney, Gwen Stefani, U2 and Kanye West all up for the same award? Your questions answered right here.

BY TAMARA CONNIFF

It is that Grammy voting time of year. Those nominated fete the Recording Academy's wisdom and prowess, while those shunned cry fraud and favoritism. Yet the voting process has been a mystery until now. In fact, it is obsessively overseen by Diane Theriot, head of awards, and a 17-year Academy veteran. She has held strong through numerous regimes (from the hated Michael Greene to the loved Neil Portnow).

In early summer, Grammy entries are solicited from Recording Academy members and registered record labels. This group submits approximately 15,000 initial entries for Grammy consideration online between June and August. Theriot and her awards team then assess all the entries to make sure they are actually eligible.

In late September, Grammy screening meetings are held to ensure all recordings have been entered into the correct categories. For example, to assess whether U2 should be considered rock or pop, etc.

This is no small task given there are 108 categories. The Academy invites member experts in each genre to make these assessments. The Academy prides itself in that the Grammy Awards are based on peer voting. These experts are chosen based on what area—producer, artist, etc.—of the recording business qualified them for membership.

Screening committees for Native American music, soundtracks, world music and children's music are held at the Recording Academy's Santa Monica, Calif., headquarters. All other committee meetings are held during a two-day off-site, usually at a swank hotel, where experts labor in nine different screening rooms.

Now it starts getting complicated. Enter the craft fields. (As a refresher, the 108 categories are contained in 31 fields; for example, the pop field has seven categories.) Craft field categories are deemed so because they require a distinct amount of hands-on research and expertise. They include album package, album notes, best historical album, remix and surround sound. It is important that those voting on album package actually see the album package, etc. The Academy sets up expert craft committees in each chapter city made

pens at a later time.

The general ballot also gives the Academy the semi-finalists for the jazz, classical, Latin and music video fields as well as the general field, aka the BIG ONES: album of the year, record of the year, song of the year and best new artist.

Nomination review committees comprised of voting members who have been approved by the trustees then scrutinize these semi-finalists. Yes, trustees are eligible to be on these committees. Theriot assures Billboard that these committees are in fact top secret and rotate every year.

Why have nomination review committees? Theriot says these committees began for classical and jazz in May 1989 and May 1992, respectively, because it is not mainstream music. The Academy wanted to make sure that members did not cast their votes based on popularity or name recognition, but truly on the quality of the recording. The nomination review committee listens to all semi-finalists recordings from beginning to end before casting their votes. Latin was added to this list in May 2002, and the general field was added in 1995.

Yes, the general field is the most contentious. But shockingly enough, the Academy had good reason to do it. Theriot confesses that not all Academy members know the difference between song of the year and record of the year. Song of the year is a songwriter's award and needs to be judged based on melody, lyrics and writing aptitude. Record of the year is an artist's award and can be judged more on performance and delivery. Once again, the top-secret experts have to be called in. Committee members cast their individual votes directly to Deloitte, whose representatives come on site. Each committee, including the craft committees, range in size from 15 to 40 people.

This is how the Academy gets to the final nominations. And for the naysayers who say members can vote in too many fields—not so. For the first ballot, members can vote in only nine fields; and for the second ballot, in only eight fields. The production, composing and

Is the process perfect? No. People complain that the nominees, especially for album of the year, song of the year and record of the year, are either too commercial or not commercial enough.

up of voting members. The chapter boards recommend committee members who then have to be approved by the full board of trustees. These craft categories do not go out to general voting. The craft committees go through a two-step voting process to determine the final nominations, which are given directly to accounting firm Deloitte.

Non-craft committee categories are included on the general ballot, which is based on the 15,000 entries. Grammy voters send their ballots to Deloitte, which then tabulates the data and prepare the awards department for the next round, which is even more complicated.

The general ballot determines the semi-finalists for yet another set of craft fields: composing, arranging, engineering and producing. This process is the same as the other craft committees, it just hap-

pening fields are voted on only by people who qualified for membership in these respective areas.

The final nominations are due Jan. 11. Then, on Feb. 8, representatives from Deloitte, under police escort, will bring the winning envelopes directly to the Staples Center in Los Angeles, in time for the live telecast.

Is the process perfect? No. People complain that the nominees, especially for album of the year, song of the year and record of the year, are either too commercial or not commercial enough. Theriot says the awards department is always working on ways to make the process better.

Who are these people who get to sit on committees? They are peers of the nominees and winners, they are experts, and, we all hope, they care more about music than record business politics.

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AWARDS BY JILL KIPNIS

Diversity Marks Album Noms

Grammy Category Includes Mostly Veterans, But Varying Styles Of Music

LOS ANGELES—A comeback story, a living legend, an established frontwoman making her solo debut, the world's biggest rock band and an opinionated rapper recorded the projects that make up a diverse album of the year slate for the 2006 Grammy Awards.

The nominees are largely music industry veterans, though their styles could not be more different.

Mariah Carey's blend of pop and R&B is competing with Paul McCartney's songwriting prowess. Gwen Stefani's dance-oriented solo foray and U2's rock anthems, while Kanye West offers up fresh, socially conscious rap.

Here is a rundown of each nominated album and its success on the Billboard charts.

- "The Emancipation of Mimi," Mariah Carey: Carey's eighth studio album is her best-selling since 1995's "Daydream," which has sold 7.5 million copies in the United States, according to Nielsen SoundScan. "Mimi" has sold 4.4 million copies in the United States since its April release, and Island Def Jam reports total worldwide sales of more than 7 million units. The project debuted at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 with 404,000 units. It stayed at No. 1 for two weeks.

Carey co-wrote the project's 14 tracks—including hit single "We Belong Together"—co-produced most of the tunes and was executive producer of the album with Island Def Jam Music Group chairman Antonio "L.A." Reid. The album emphasizes her octave-defying vocal talents through collaborations with Jermaine Dupri, the Neptunes, Snoop Dogg and fellow nominee West.

"This is a comeback. If you want to be technical about it," Carey told Billboard in November, "because it's an album of songs that have come from my heart that I didn't have to battle the record company about. It was like, 'We support you as an artist.'"

- "Chaos and Creation in the Backyard," Paul McCartney: McCartney's 20th post-Beatles album and his **continued on >>p32**

AWARDS BY TODD MARTENS

Race For Record Of The Year A Close Call

This year's Grammy Award nominees for record of the year have collectively logged 28 weeks at No. 1 on The Billboard Hot 100. Out of the five contenders, Mariah Carey had the biggest success: Her smash ballad "We Belong Together" spent 14 weeks ruling the chart, more than any other single in 2005.

To take home an award, she will have to beat out four acts with top 20 hits. Among the other nominees, Kanye West, Green Day and Gwen Stefani have all won at least one Grammy in the past, and Gorillaz will try for their first award. Here is a closer look at the nominees.

- "We Belong Together," Mariah Carey: The first single from Carey's "The Emancipation of Mimi" (Island) became her 16th song to hit No. 1 on the Hot 100. It was her first No. 1 since 2000, when "Thank God I Found You" featuring Joe and 98° reached the summit.

Carey told Billboard she had an early sense this song would stand out: "I had the chills. I had a great feeling about it when we finished writing the song, and I was flying back from Atlanta at some crazy hour of the morning... But we were listening on the plane ride on the way home, and even from the demo, I really felt something special."

- "Gold Digger," Kanye West: As the second single from West's "Late Registration" (Roc-a-Fella/Def Jam), "Gold Digger" quelled any fears of West hitting a sophomore slump.

The song was the closest challenger to "We Belong Together" for pure chart dominance, as it spent 10 weeks atop the Hot 100. The single gave West his second No. 1 on that chart, and, like his 2004 hit with Twista, "Slow Jamz," it features a cameo from Jamie Foxx.

"I look at voices as Instruments," West told Billboard in 2005. "I wasn't going after the person or the name. I wanted the voice."

- "Boulevard of Broken Dreams," Green Day: This is the second single from Green Day's "American Idiot" (Reprise) to earn a record of the year nomination. The title track received a nod last year, but did not win, although the trio took home a trophy for best rock album.

"Boulevard of Broken Dreams" peaked at No. 2 on the Hot 100 in March, giving the act its first top 10 hit on the chart. Additionally, it spent 16 weeks at No. 1 on Billboard's Modern Rock chart. **continued on >>p32**

MARIAH CAREY is up for Grammy Awards in the album and record of the year categories.

ALBUM OF THE YEAR (cont.)

from »p31

first studio set in four years in many ways marks a return to form. The Capitol Records project, which has scanned 377,000 units, features the artist playing multiple instruments—the first time he has done so since 1980's "McCartney II." The album also includes some of his most critically acclaimed songs in years such as "Fine Line." The artist won a Grammy in this category in 1967 as a member of the Beatles for "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band."

"Chaos" peaked at No. 6 on The Billboard 200 when it was released in September.

McCartney told Billboard around the time of the album's release that after meeting with producer Nigel Godrich (Radiohead, Beck), he discovered that their ideas were "surprisingly similar. I suggested a couple of possible things that I was listening to that we might draw off. And he said, 'No, we've got enough to draw off. People want an album that sounds like you.'"

"Love Angel, Music, Baby," Gwen Stefani: The '80s-inspired dance album from Stefani—her first as a solo artist—includes collaborations with Dr. Dre and Eve, the Neptunes, OutKast's André 3000, Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis and her No Doubt bandmate Tony Kanal. The interspace project has scanned 3.3 million units since its November 2004 release and reached No. 5 on The Billboard 200

thanks to a slew of hits including "What You Waiting For?," "Rich Girl" and "Hollaback Girl."

This success follows almost 10 years of hits from No Doubt, which have collectively sold 15 million units in the United States, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

"[My inspiration] was so strong with 'Love Angel, Music, Baby,'" Stefani says. "I knew



exactly what I wanted to do, and it was just like I had such a fire of inspiration."

"How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb," U2: The Irish quartet's 11th studio album debuted with a bang at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 in November 2004 with sales of 840,000 units. The project has scanned 2.9 million copies in the United States on the strength of such tracks as "Vertigo," "All Because of You" and "Sometimes You Can't Make It on Your Own."

Some critics called the album the group's best effort since "The Joshua Tree," which won a Grammy in this category in 1987. It follows on the heels of its popular 2000 project, "All That You Can't Leave Behind."

which has sold 10.8 million units worldwide, according to Interco.

U2's manager Paul McGuinness told Billboard in 2005 that the band is "always trying to beat their previous best. They went into [their career] to do it as long as [they could] be great and then stop. They hold the title, and they're not going to give it away. If someone wants to come and take it away, they'll have to fight them for it."

"Late Registration," Kanye West: Not one to couch his feelings, West told Billboard last summer that his sophomore album "is so good, it's scary." He said that some of the work on his debut, "The College Dropout," which has scanned 2.8 million units, "was rushed, although people liked it. I've always wanted to sound like I was rapping at the top of a mountain. I wanted to change the sound of music."

West worked with producer Jon Brion and a host of artists including Jamie Foxx, Jay-Z, John Legend, Nas and Common on the August 2005 release, and incorporated previously recorded vocals from Bill Withers, Curtis Mayfield and Etta James. The album blends hip-hop, alternative and soul with live instrumentation.

Such tracks as "Gold Digger" and "Diamonds from Sierra Leone" propelled the Roc-A-Fella album to bow at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 with 866,000 units. Total sales now count 2.2 million copies.

ALBUM OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Album of the year (awarded to the artist, producer, recording engineer/mixer and mastering engineer, if other than the artist):

"The Emancipation of Mimi" (Island)

Artist: Mariah Carey

Producers: various

Recording engineers/mixers: various

Mastering engineer: Herb Powers

"Chaos and Creation in the Backyard" (Capitol)

Artist: Paul McCartney

Producer: Nigel Godrich

Recording engineers/mixers: Darrell Thorp

Mastering engineer: Alan Yoshida

"Love Angel, Music, Baby" (Interscope)

Artist: Gwen Stefani

Producers: various

Recording engineers/mixers: various

Mastering engineer: Brian "Big Bass" Gardner

"How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb" (Interscope)

Artist: U2

Producers: various

Recording engineers/mixers: various

Mastering engineer: Arnie Acosta

"Late Registration" (Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam)

Artist: Kanye West

Producers: various

Recording engineers/mixers: various

Mastering engineer: Vlad Meller

STEFANI

RECORD OF THE YEAR (cont.)

from »p31

"American Idol" has proved to be a steady generator of radio hits. Its five singles have all appeared on the Modern Rock chart, with "Jesus of Suburbia" currently climbing the list.

"Hollaback Girl," Gwen Stefani: A song that was inescapable all summer, "Hollaback Girl" arrived on the Hot 100 at No. 82 in April and hit No. 1 six weeks later. The cut then spent four weeks at the top.

"I'm really proud of the song, because it's really fun

to have a hit," Stefani told Billboard, "but it hit that kind of transcends cultural and language barriers is just extraordinary."

If it takes home a Grammy, it will not be the first time a Stefani single has earned that honor. Her duet with Eve, "Let Me Blow Ya Mind," won the best rap/sung collaboration honor in 2004.

"Feel Good Inc.," Gorillaz: The first Gorillaz cut to make the Hot 100 is the act's second to be nominated for a Grammy.

RECORD OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Record of the year (awarded to the artist, producer and recording engineer/mixer, if other than the artist):

"We Belong Together" (Island)

Artist: Mariah Carey

Producers: Mariah Carey, Jermaine Dupri, Manuel Seal

Recording engineers/mixers: Brian Garten, John Horecso

IV, Phil Tan

"Feel Good Inc." (Virgin)

Artist: Gorillaz featuring De La Soul

Producers: Jason Cox, Danger Mouse, Dring, Gorillaz

Recording engineers/mixers: Jason Cox, Danger Mouse, Dring, Gorillaz

"Boulevard of Broken Dreams" (Reprise)

Artist: Green Day

Producers: Rob Cavallo, Green Day

Recording engineers/mixers:

Chris Lord-Alge, Doug McKean

"Hollaback Girl" (Interscope)

Artist: Gwen Stefani

Producers: the Neptunes

Recording engineers/mixers: Andrew Coleman, Phil Tan

"Gold Digger" (Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam)

Artist: Kanye West

Producers: Jon Brion, Kanye West

Recording engineers/mixers: Tom Bille, Andrew Dawson, Mike Dean, Anthony Kilhofer

The song peaked at No. 14 on the singles tally, and was No. 1 for eight weeks on the Modern Rock chart.

"Feel Good Inc." is the cartoon act's biggest hit since "Clint Eastwood" peaked at No. 3 on the Modern Rock chart in 2001. It is still going strong, having been on the chart for more than 30 weeks.

Gorillaz's current single—"Dare," which features Shaun Ryder—has been on the rock chart since November, and is hovering in the mid-20s.

The Beat

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After The Gold Rush

Green Day Seeks Some Well-Deserved Quiet After A Fab Year

Green Day hopes 2006 brings the sounds of silence. One of the big winners at the Dec. 6 Billboard Music Awards, the band headed to Australia after the awards show for two concerts before officially putting an end to the "American Idols" era.

And, as Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong admits, parting can be such sweet sorrow. "It was a crazy year, but it's been the best year of our career," he says. "It's going to be kind of sad for it to end, but, you know, we don't have any regrets."

Finally coming off the road means the band can "get back to some of the other aspects of what we do," bassist Mike Dirnt says, "whether it's recording or just getting back into the creative process again."

Although Armstrong says discussions about the next album will begin in January, he says not to expect anything too soon. "We'll start with silence and that's how we'll be able to find the inspiration to find another record," he says.

Part of that inspiration comes from knowing when to stop writing. "A lot of people just keep going and going and going," Dirnt adds. It is important, he says, to know "when to call it quits for awhile and go home and rejuvenate and detox and write another record."

Already, Armstrong says, individual ideas for new songs are germinating. "We always share everything that we're doing. Right now, it's a lot of writing for ourselves and it's staying right there for now and then [we'll] start to put the puzzle to-

gether and then try to put the ante a little bit."

As the band members look back at 2005, Dirnt says the highlight, in a year filled with them, was their stadium shows. "It's just something that we worked really hard to get to and the fact that we were able to do that is something to be proud of."

Green Day grossed \$36.5 million from 76 shows, according to Billboard Boxscore. Its tour landed at No. 10 in the year-end ranking of top tours.

The band continues to be managed by Pat Magarella, who recently left Mosaic Media Group to form Pat's Management Company.

Other clients of the Los Angeles-based firm include Goo Goo Dolls and the All-American Rejects.

LOOKING BACK: As we turn the calendar page to a new year, a number of other artists shared their highlights of 2005 with Billboard.

Gwen Stefani: "It's hard to even pick just one, but since I'm on tour right now, I'll have to say meeting some of the people who have just been so supportive to me have made [the success of her solo album] all feel very real. It's not just any number on a chart."

Ciara: "Selling 3 million [albums] worldwide. Also, traveling around the world was really a highlight for me, seeing different cultures and different lifestyles."

Kelly Rowland: "The World Music Awards. They did a good by presentation [to Destiny's

Child] with Rihanna, Teairra Mari and Amerie doing 'Lose My Breath' with Patti LaBelle. We were all a mess! That was the Lord's way of telling us that this is only the beginning. It goes way beyond just now."

Marko: "Being on tour with Destiny's Child. And going to Australia. That was my first time there. With no promotion, I went straight to 20,000-seaters."

Chingy: "When everybody was giving back for Hurricane Katrina. It was the highlight of my life to make some people happy."

Bun-B: "Probably to see Paul Wall have the No. 1 album across the board. Don't get me wrong: honorable mention would be me having the No. 1 R&B/hip-hop album, but definitely to see a Houston artist be No. 1 across the board, man, that was big."

Boyz II Men: "Between the birth of my son and then receiving the Jim Croce 20th Annual Music Award [presented by his wife and son] and being named top reality star at VH1's 'Big in 2005,' it's all been so crazy. It's hard to narrow it down, but definitely my son has been a real life-changing experience."

Ryan Cabrera: "Saved by the Bell, Season Two" coming out on CD. If you mean about me, it was getting my own TV show on MTV. It's just kind of unreal to realize that four years ago, I was sitting watching MTV and now I have a show on MTV."

Additional reporting by Jonathan Cohen in New York.

AUSTIN



Rhythm & Blues

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R&B Icons, Up-And-Comers Kick Off New Year

Welcome back! Let's get the new music year started with a few updates and a look ahead.

As 2006 rolls in, singer/publisher Joanta Austin resigns with his longtime publisher, Chrysalis Music Publishing. He has been with the company since 1997.

The 24-year-old is also a double Grammy Award nominee (for song of the year and best R&B song), thanks to his co-writing credit on Mariah Carey's "We Belong Together." In addition to penning songs for Fantasia, Mariah and Ciara, Austin's most recent co-writing credits include Chris Brown ("Yo") and Mary J. Blige ("Be With- out You"). Austin's album debut on Virgin Records is due early this year.

D'Angelo will resurface Feb. 28 as a producer/guest vocalist on Roy Hargrove's two-CD set of new recordings. D'Angelo appears on disc one with Hargrove's band, RH Factor, which includes saxophonist David "Fathead" Newman. The second CD in the Verve Records set will feature the Roy Har-

grove Quintet along with a special guest, trombonist Slide Hampton. Also on the Verve tip: R&B icon Gladys Knight will do her standards thing for a CD on the label due in June.

Sixties soul singer Howard Tate goes live on Shout Factory's "Howard Tate Live," out Feb. 21. Recorded June 26, 2004, in Denmark, the set encompasses cuts from his 2003 Grammy-nominated album "Rediscovered."

Speaking of R&B legends, the career of Roberta Flack is encapsulated in Rhino's 17-track "The Very Best of Roberta Flack." In addition to signature hits ("The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face") and memorable pairings (with Donny Hathaway and Peabo Bryson), the Feb. 7 release features the rare B-side "Trade Winds."

Universal/Notown Records has inked a multi-artist deal with T-Town Music. The Dallas-based independent label's flagship act is the Dirty South Rydz. The group comprises Big Tuck (whose club joint "Tussle" first earned T-Town buzz), Tum Tum, Fat B, Lil

Ronnie, Double T, Addiction and Big Titi. The first release under the new pact will be Big Tuck's currently untitled album, due in March. T-Town is headed by principals Alan Powell, George Lopez and Trinidad Delgado.

NEWCOMER ALERT: Keep an ear out later this year for new Atlantic Records recruit Hape. Discovered while as a street performer in Santa Monica, Calif., the singer/songwriter/musician most recently toured with Seal, while her song "The Rain Don't Last" was featured on the American Red Cross' public service announcements for hurricane relief.

Another artist to keep within close earshot is 12-year-old inspirational singer Spensha Baker. The young pro wowed the audience Dec. 10 with her performance of "Love's in Need of Love Today" during the Recording Academy's Grammy Jam saluting Stevie Wonder. The Texas-born Baker is working on her first album for A&M, which is due at the end of the first quarter.



GREEN DAY

Strokes Out To 'Impress'

NEW YORK—In 2001, the Strokes transcended the New York club scene in a flash. They became international rock stars, selling 1 million copies of their RCA debut "Is This It" in the United States alone, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

The photogenic quintet were tagged poster boys for a much-ballyhooed new, energetic rock movement that included the Hives and the Vines, and later, Interpol, Franz Ferdinand and the Killers.

But when the group offered up more of the same in 2003's "Room on Fire," sales suffered. The set has shifted 575,000 units to date domestically, and it raised the question: Were the Strokes a casualty of hype, or was it just the sophomore slump?

RCA is hoping to reverse gear as it preps a new Strokes album, "First Impressions of Earth," for an unusual Jan. 3 street date. The set has enjoyed

strong prerelease buzz thanks to the single "Juicebox," which is No. 15 this issue on the Modern Rock chart, and its accompanying video, which stars comedian David Cross.

The label and band decided that on this go-round, time would be on their side to record without deadlines looming and time to properly set up the album at retail and radio, regardless of street date.

"The first record was done quickly because we didn't know any better. It was an exact set list, in order," guitarist Albert Hammond Jr. recalls. "The second one, we were trying to get something different, but we didn't have the time."

"This one, we didn't want to do that again," he adds. "We said, 'Let's get our own equipment and just sit in the studio. It'll take a month or two year, whatever.'"

At the urging of producer David Kahne, vocalist Julian

Casablancas is clearly audible above the instruments for the first time, singing with previously unheard power on tracks like "Juicebox" and "Fear of Sleep." And while songs like "You Only Live Once" and the ultra-poppy "Banish'd" are classic Strokes, others are quite different than their predecessors.

"These songs have definitely pushed all of our abilities," Hammond says. "I felt like we had to find something that would make people listen to the songs more and not focus on the sound."

When it became clear that "First Impressions" would not be ready for the post-Thanksgiving retail rush, RCA decided to gamble with a Jan. 3 release.

"I really wanted to make sure we caught the wave of when college and high-school kids were still at home, to then take the record back with them and start a dialogue," label executive VP/GM

Richard Sanders says.

Further complicating the delay was that several new songs leaked to the Internet in the fall and spread like wildfire on music blogs.

"I honestly would have liked to have this album out now to capitalize," Sanders says. "But we decided, 'OK, let's charge this up the radio charts and hope the video will give the single a second leg through the holidays.'"

While "Juicebox" racked up spins at home, the Strokes were busy playing impromptu club gigs all over the world, trying to recapture the word-of-mouth excitement that fueled the band's early explosion. A handful of similar shows are on tap for January in North America.

"This is not a band that would ever rest on their laurels," Strokes manager Ryan Gendron says. "If anything, I don't think we feel like we've accomplished anything special yet... Now it's time



Global Pulse

EDITED BY TOM FERGUSON tferguson@eu.billboard.com

Estopa Back On Top

Estorville automobile assembly line workers David and José Muñoz first topped the Spanish charts in 1999 with their self-titled debut as Estopa (BMG Arista).

Having shipped more than 11 million units of that album in Spain, according to Sony BMG, the Barcelona-born brothers returned to the top of the Media Control chart in December with Estopa's fourth album, "Voces De Ultramar.".

Shipments of the No. 22 release have passed the 230,000 mark, Sony BMG Spain International Development product manager Rebecca Frago says. The album will come out

in Mexico, Argentina and Chile during February, with Germany, Switzerland and the United States likely to follow.

Estopa's uncomplicated but infectious streetwise take on Catalan rumba fills with reggae and rap—a mixture that Frago says has helped Sony BMG ship nearly 3 million total albums to date in Spain.

Estopa signed a global deal with BMG Music Publishing Spain in November, but its catalog prior to "Voces De Ultramar" remains with EM Music Publishing. Madrid-based Heredie Producciones is booking a domestic summer tour.

—HOWELL LEWELLYN

MOVIE TIME: Italian singer/songwriter Federico Zampaglione is taking a break from his 15-year career with electronic pop/rock trio Tiromancino, but it is no vacation.

Tiromancino is essentially a vehicle for Zampaglione's compositions, published in Italy though Nonesse. In addition to fronting and producing the act, he directs its videos and is putting that experience to use this summer to direct the feature film "Nero Bifamigliare" for Rome-

based Moviemax.

Tiromancino signed to Virgin Italy in 1999 after releasing four largely experimental albums on four different labels since 1990.

Virgin GM Mario Saia says he is not worried about Zampaglione's sabbatical affecting the act's career. "He's the sort of creative artist any label would love to have on the roster," Saia adds. "He can deliver quantity and quality, and you know he will produce something of value. He's a guarantee."

Virgin issued the two-disc compilation "95-05" in Italy Nov. 17, and it remains on the FIMI chart. Saia says shipments of the album, which includes rerecordings of some of Tiromancino's early material, have passed the 70,000 mark. —MARK WORDEN

LOUISIAN REIGNS: Hamburg-based pop vocalist Ann Louisen was one of Sony BMG Germany's top domestic successes in 2005.

The label says it has shipped more than 380,000 units of her debut album, "Bohème," in Germany since its November 2004 release.

Second album "Uneingesprochen" was released Oct. 24 and charted Nov. 1 at No. 3 on the Media Control chart. Sony BMG says shipments topped at 180,000 units.

Loulsen was discovered in 2004 by Hamburg-based Michael Karnstedt, European president of publisher Peer Music Germany, and signed to 105 Music, a Sony BMG joint venture with ex-EMI Germany president Heinz Canibol and former Electrola managing director Roman Rybnikar (Billboard, April 2).

Karnstedt is confident that Louisen's success will spread in Europe in 2006, particularly in France and the Benelux countries (the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Belgium). "The quality of her voice, her mysterious lyrics and her aura will surmount all language barriers," he says.

Loulsen's songs, published by Peer Music, are written with producer Frank Ramond, who she calls "the architect of my thoughts." She begins a three-month tour of German-speaking markets in February, booked by Semmel Concerts.

—WOLFGANG SPAHR



Classical Score

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Hilliard Stays Fresh

After 31 years, 21 albums recorded for the ECM label alone and a demanding tour schedule of more than 100 concerts around the world each year, how does the U.K.-based Hilliard Ensemble keep things fresh?

One answer for the vocal group—one of the foremost of its kind in medieval, Renaissance and utterly new music—is to keep uncovering mastery work.

Such is the case with its latest ECM release, which arrives in stores Jan. 10. The album consists of compositions by Franco-Flemish composer Nicolas Gombert (circa 1495-circa 1560), including his Mass Media Vita and a few of some 160 extant motets.

The group's current lineage of counterpoint David James, tenors Rogers Covey-Crump and Steven Harrold and baritone Gordon Jones was joined for this project by tenor Andreas Hirtreiter and bass Robert MacDonald. Jones says that the lack of attention to Gombert's music is a mystery.

"His music has such a sweetness and richness, and has such a sensuous quality," Jones says. "It is so well-

regarded, and there is so much of it that has survived. The textures of Gombert are fascinating too. He writes for low voices in a time when many composers were writing for high voices, and his music is very dark, very richly colored. So it is really very difficult to understand why he is so very rarely performed and even more rarely recorded."

Another answer to how these singers keep their music-making so creative and vivid





FACT FILE

Label: RCA

Management: Ryan Gatties, Wiz Kid Management

Booking: Marsha Vlasic, MVO

Publishing: The Stokes Band Music (ASCAP)

Best-selling album: "Is This It" (2003), 1 million

Last album: "Room on Fire" (2003), 575,000

to really work hard."

To ensure in-store visibility during the holiday season, RCA created a freestanding counter-top, strobe-like device. "If you miss it, you must be blind," Sanders says with a chuckle. "Juicebox" was released as a commercial single in early December and stickered with the album release date.

At retail, signs are encouraging that Jan. 3 was a good call. "This could prove to be very big if Sony BMG gets the shipping right," Coalition of Independent Music Stores president Don Van Cleave says. "Trying to stage everything with two major holidays in the weeks before the release is a challenge, but Jan. 3 is a great day because no one is back in school or work yet, and they all have gift certificates."

Plus, with a dearth of other major releases that week, the album stands a good chance at debuting high on The Billboard 200. "We worked for so long on

it," Gentles says, "so we want this to be the first big album to represent 2006."

"First Impressions" will also be available as a limited-edition Digipak featuring a host of cards that can be inserted to customize the cover, plus a 36-page booklet with lyrics and paintings.

The Strokes—who also include guitarist Nick Valensi, bassist Nikolai Fraiture and drummer Fabrizio Moretti—will begin 2006 with an extensive U.K. tour and a three-month North American run through late April. After summer European festival dates, the Strokes will return to North America.

Whether the album returns the Strokes to platinum status, Hammond says the band is thrilled with the finished product and excited to be back in front of audiences again. "We have three albums' worth of material, so we can play 24 songs and still have 15 songs left for an encore," he says. "We're rejuvenated." ...

With Very Old Music

in the way they rehearse and perform. "Our rehearsals are not phenomenally detailed; instead, we just get to know the outlines of a piece," Jones says. "We actually put the whole thing together only in the performance, which means that we have to be able to communicate very clearly with one another."

Such technique keeps things lively. "The music never gets dull, of course," Jones quickly adds. "But to say 'This is how

we're going to do things every time' would be so static and restricting. The way to perform a piece depends so much on the moment, what the audience is like, what the building you're performing in is like."

The ability to be spontaneous works best for the audience and the ensemble, Jones says. "The way we operate is different from many other groups, who prefer to work in much more fixed de-

tail. But considering how much we do, we have to keep it interesting for ourselves one way or other."

The group heads to U.S. shores later this month with tour stops in Los Angeles; Portland, Ore.; Cincinnati; Lexington, Ky.; Richmond, Va.; and New York.

THE RACE TO FEB. 8: It is already clear that one label dominates the Grammy Awards race in the classical field: Naxos.

With 15 nominations between its own releases and those of distributed labels CPO, Naive and Pentatone, Naxos handsily surpasses its nearest competitors EMI Classics/Virgin Classics (with 10 nominations) and Universal Classics (with nine).

Of the Naxos nods, five feature music written by 67-year-old composer William Bokor: three for the recording of his "Songs of Innocence and of Experience," led by Leonard Slatkin, and two for a collection of songs featuring solo carole Farley, with the Michigan-based Bolcom at the piano. ...



Latin Notas

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ELASTIC PÉREZ

Miami-Based Director Puts His Stamp On Many Facets Of A Project

Many in the music industry know Carlos Pérez as a video director who has worked with Ricky Martin, Ricardo Montaner and Olga Tañón, among others.

What some might not

track to the album "Barrio Fino" and the single "Gasolina." That video was Pérez's handiwork, and its merit was compounded by the fact that it was part of a broad, 360-degree image

"You have the opportunity to get a lot more intimate and personal as to what he is and represents," Pérez says. "It's an integrated approach to what you see on TV, what you see on the Web site. Everything has to make people understand that this guy [is not just about] 'Gasolina'."

Pérez says that before he takes on a project, even something as basic as an album cover, he likes to listen to the music and meet with the marketing director, the A&R director and, naturally, the artist. He also uses the Internet as a marketing tool. For example, he will post photos to test market reaction.

The integrated approach that Pérez proposes in his projects is still relatively new in the Latin realm, where seldom does the same person take control of so many different imaging aspects. One of the few examples that comes to mind is Bebo & Cigala's "Ágrrimas Negras," co-produced by film director Fernando Trueba, who also directed the concert DVD and other video materials.

But the success of Yankeka and other reggaeton artists, Pérez says, may be redefining the way Latin music is marketed.

"As independents, these guys were pushing serious marketing initiatives, whether they understood that or not," he says. "I think a lot of major labels are looking and analyzing how they accomplished that in such a short time."

BY THE WAY: Several weeks ago, we wondered if the reggaeton movement had legs beyond Daddy Yankee. Several year-end releases seem to point in that direction. Newcomers debuting on Billboard's Top Latin Albums chart include Alexis & Fido with "The Pitbulls" and Calle 13 with its self-titled debut. Sony BMG is distributing both. ...



PÉREZ

know is that Pérez and his 4-year-old Miami-based company Elastic People are also all-around image consultants with a client list that includes Montaner, Tañón and, most famously, Daddy Yankee.

Now, with the release of Yankee's new CD/DVD combo, "Barrio Fino En Directo," and the increasing success of his single "Rompe," Pérez and his Elastic People are, quite literally, in everybody's face.

Pérez directed the "Barrio Fino En Directo" DVD and the "Rompe" video, both released under Yankee's new El Cartel/Intarscope association.

To understand why Pérez is still in the picture, back-

that included Yankee's black-and-white album art, publicity shots, interactive imaging and the staging of his recent tour.

"We started working some six months prior to the album's release," says Pérez, who also has offices in Puerto Rico.

"The main challenge with him was to put out his marketing materials and be at the level of any Anglo artist."

With "Barrio Fino En Directo," Pérez aimed to show a more personal side of Yankee, not only by shooting concert footage, but also by conducting interviews during the tour. And, of course, the staging of the tour was also done by Pérez.



HILLIARD ENSEMBLE

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YOUR GUIDE TO UNSIGNED BANDS



>>>BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB

From day one, the Billionaire Boys Club had luck on its side. The rock act played its first live show in 2002 with power-pop artists Fountains of Wayne. Since then, the New Jersey-based band has twice performed on "Last Call With Carson Daly," and its single "Don't You Wanna" was featured in a commercial for VH1's "Best Week Ever." The act recently released its first full-length, "What Happened Last Night," and just wrapped a West Coast tour. All the attention has lead to some label interest, but the band says it has not found the right fit. "We were totally DIY for as long as we could be, and we still embrace that ethic," bassist Leigh Nelson says. "The first person that was ever officially on our payroll was our lawyer. When we started having contracts to sign we clearly needed somebody to help us. But we're pretty choosy about who we're involved with."

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—Katy Kroll

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Nashville Scene

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Capitol's Capital Year

Capitol Nashville Ended 2005 On Top In Several Categories

Despite a tumultuous year full of staff changes, Capitol Records Nashville finished 2005 as Billboard's Top Country imprint, Hot Country Songs imprint and Hot Country Songs label, ending the four-year reign by Arista Nashville in that last category.

Capitol landed six songs among the 50 most-played country titles in 2005, including three from Keith Urban and one each from Dierks Bentley, Jamie O'Neal and Trace Adkins.

VP of promotion Jimmy Harnen credits the combination of great artists, great songs and a great promotion team for his label's success.

After just four months as senior director of national promotion, Harnen unexpectedly found himself bumped up to the VP chair after longtime format chief Bill Catino segued to Universal Music Group Nashville in March 2005. He likens his reaction to this chain of events to "seeing the Hoover Dam for the first time."

Capitol Records Nashville president/CEO Mike Dungen brought Harnen onboard in November 2004 with the idea that he might succeed Catino in four or five years if Catino decided to retire. Instead, Harnen remembers Dungen saying to him in March, "You've had four months. Are you ready?"

Harnen was.

"I've lived my whole life to be able to do this job," he says. "Failure was not an option."

Catino's departure and Harnen's promotion set off a string of other changes in

the department in what became an unusually turbulent year. Among the changes, Harnen promoted Steve Hodges to senior director of national promotion from the Southeast regional director post.

"There were a couple of planes in the air I had to land," Harnen says of the early days in his new position.

"I remember our first budget meeting," he says with a laugh. "I think the invasion of Normandy was easier to plan."

With all that going on, Harnen says he was not aware until late fall that Capitol was once in the race for Hot Country Songs label of the year, despite one particularly successful week midyear when his team nabbed

the top three positions on the Hot Country Songs chart.

In addition to the changes within, the Capitol promotion department—like the rest of the music industry—was adjusting this year to a new way of doing business brought on by New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer's payola probe and the resulting settlements with Sony BMG and Warner Bros.

"It's definitely a dynamic time with all the changes and settlements coming down," Harnen says, choosing his words carefully. While he says Capitol has always complied with the law, the result of the settlements is more busy work. "You're seeing a lot of labels trying to make sure they're doing things the proper way."

For instance, he says, if a station requests a box of CDs for on-air giveaways, it is now sent with forms indicating the CDs were not supplied in exchange for airplay for any Capitol act. "There's a lot of paperwork," Harnen admits, "but it's all for the best. We've had no problems adapting to it."

Through all the year's tumult, Harnen says, "Our motto has always been 'Keep your head down and race.' " He also encourages his team to live by another motto: "Serious fun."

"We all really care about what we're doing and work hard," he says. But "I'm always telling our crew to put the 'show' in 'show business' because this is a fun job. We have the greatest jobs in the world. I'm always telling people to be appreciative of that.



'Failure was not an option.'

—JIMMY HARNEN, CAPITOL RECORDS NASHVILLE



Higher Ground

DEBORAH EVANS PRICE dprice@billboard.com

For Christian And Gospel Labels, 2005 Was Good But Challenging

As we head into 2006, executives at Nashville's Christian and gospel labels are reflecting on 2005 and gearing up for the challenges that await in the coming year.

Though 2005 saw the building success of such new acts as BarlowGirl, Kierrie "KIKI" Sheard and Building 429, as well as strong sales by perennial favorites Third Day, Kirk Franklin, CeCe Winans and Casting Crowns, it was not the banner year all had hoped.

"Overall, business has been difficult," Provident Music Group president/CEO Terry Hemmings says, adding that the company finished the year "in good shape" due in part to the sales of Third Day and Casting Crowns. "Sales on the whole [industry were] down

double digits over 2004. Catalog and middle tier records are soft, and new artist development is a struggle."

On the upside, he says that "the growth of the digital marketplace, including online sales, ringtones, etc., has been solid and looks to continue upward."

Increasing the fan base, through whatever means available, continues to be every label's goal. "Creating fans is our biggest challenge," Word Label Group senior VP of marketing Rod Riley says. "A consumer today can easily find the latest radio single for 99 cents and never become more involved in each artist's unique ministry. Our challenge is to share each artist's story and passion in a compelling way and move people beyond casual

consumption of songs. ... When we are successful in creating ownership between an audience and an artist, that momentum opens doors to have a bigger impact on culture."

EMI Gospel VP/GM Larry Blackwell says the gospel com-

munity fared better in terms of overall sales for the year than the contemporary Christian side of the industry, but says "it took releases from nearly every major artist this year—Kirk Franklin, Yolanda Adams, CeCe Winans, Mary Mary, Donnie McClurkin—to accomplish that. For me the story is how we effectively develop new artists so we don't have to depend on release schedules to drive sales."

Others agree. "One of the most concerning trends for the industry last year was the lack of breakout new artists," Riley says.

During the December sales conferences, labels introduced new acts they hope will break through in 2006. Among them are Slanted Records' December Radio, RKT Records' Hyper

Static Union, Myrrin's Pocket Full of Rocks, Simple Records' Phil Wickham and S/R/E Recordings' Decifer Down.

"The biggest challenge is new artist development," Hemmings says. "This business thrives on new breakthroughs and we have not had [a major] one since Casting Crowns debuted in 2003. We also need to see strengthening at Christian retail. This was a tough year in that regard."

Blackwell sees very specific needs in the gospel community. "Simply put, we need more quality management and touring opportunities for our artists," he says. "We have some truly great options in management and touring, but unfortunately they're very limited."

"The music business is cur-

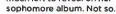
rently in such radical change the one constant for EMI Gospel is to continually make great music and focus on our core consumer first," he says. "We do that primarily through terrestrial radio, touring and television. In other words, to me, a challenge for 2006 is to not forget the fundamentals that get us in the race."

PROGRAM NOTE: In the interest of unity, the gospel and contemporary Christian segments of the industry will now be represented in the biweekly Higher Ground column instead of through two separate columns. News on the Christian and gospel communities will continue to run in the weekly magazine in the Upfront and Music sections and on billboard.biz and billboard.com.



RILEY

ALBUMS



NEW RELEASES

SINGLES

from >> p37

catchy but depressing single "Confession of a Broken Heart (Daughter to Father)," she hits hard at her dad with the lyric "Tell me the truth/Did you ever love me?" She is not quite as heavy as her previous releases, though, tossing in a Cheap Trick cover ("I Want You to Want Me") or a fun Stevie Nicks read ("Edge of Seventeen"). She further lightens the mood with dance numbers like the rockin' title track and the excellent thump-thump of "Who Loves You." Get past the "Lindsay Lohan, Singer?" vibe, and there is an enjoyable album here.—KC

GOSPEL

NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHOIR FEATURING JOHN P. KEE

The Reunion
Producer: John P. Kee
Label: Jive/Zomba Gospel
Release Date: Dec. 6
 One of the first to merge traditional R&B and gospel with modern R&B, John P. Kee (with his New Life Community Choir) is one of contemporary gospel's founding fathers. Twenty years after its debut, Kee has assembled a number of the original choir's most memorable singers for this dazzling retrospective. Kee, current members of NLC& and guests render stirring reimaginings of the hit-heavy Kee repertoire, filtering the spirit of the original recordings through very modern sensibilities. "Survive" is cool, bluesy jazz, featuring Kee with Isaac Carae, Lowell Pye and Lajeune Thompson. "I'm Covered" is hard, backbone-rattling, Sunday-morning gospel, with L. Thompson and Vanessa Bell Armstrong perform an otherworldly duet on the hymn-like ballad "Grateful." Kee's

contribution to contemporary gospel is immeasurable, and this hefty slice of his catalog stands as sturdy and fresh as ever.—GE

CLASSICAL

BEAUX ARTS TRIO Shostakovich, Piano Trios Nos. 1 & 2

Producer: Da-Hong Seeroo
Label: Warner Classics
Release Date: Jan. 10
 While this will be a big 2006 anniversary: This year marks the centenary of Shostakovich's birth. A very strong early entrant in the festivities is this Beaux Arts Trio recording. Treating the youthful Trio No. 1 as a wistful look back at Russian romanticism, these players have their guns out and blazing by Trio No. 2, and give the Allegro Non Troppo movement a particularly delicious, wickedly sardonic edge. Rounding out the album is a most welcome addition: Alexander Blok's "Seven Romances on Verses," in which the trio is joined by silver-voiced soprano Joan Rodgers.—AT

CHRISTIAN

VARIOUS ARTISTS The Second Chance—Original Motion Picture Soundtrack

Producers: Steve Taylor, Robert Beeson
Label: Reunion Records
Release Date: Dec. 27
 This strong set of songs preceded the Feb. 17 release of "The Second Chance," starring Christian music veteran Michael W. Smith in his film debut as a pastor sent from a cushy gig at a wealthy church to serve an inner-city congregation. The music here is suitably rousing, beginning with Third Day's "Movin' On Up,"

a passionate anthem that showcases lead vocalist Mac Powell's incredible pipes. "Follow Me," performed by Smith and the legendary Andrea Crouch, is among the album's highlights. Elsewhere, "American Idol" alum Ruben Studdard serves up a soulful version of the classic "I Surrender All." Well-known as a gifted composer, Smith contributes fine instrumental work to the film's score as well as the end-title track "All in the Serve," which is a perfect pop hit.—DEP

BLUES

ZORA YOUNG Tore Up from the Floor Up

Producers: Robert Koester, Steve Weyel
Label: Delmark
Release Date: Nov. 15
 Utter the phrase "female Chicago blues singer," and the name that most blues fans will utter first is "Yoko Taylor." But Zora Young is a dues-paying member of the Windy City's blues scene, and she has a voice that has come to be chanted around the corner to the juke joint. The album features five young compositions among its dozen tunes. They include "Elton John's Christmas Party" (Chris Pinch), "Reggie Pinball, the Regal Pinball Christmas Album" (Chris Pinch), "Robert Stiltman, 'Horrorst'" (Chris Pinch),

THIS WEEK ON
amazon.com

ADDITIONAL REVIEWS:

• Various artists, "Elton John's Christmas Party" (Chris Pinch)
 • Reggie Pinball, the Regal Pinball Christmas Album (Chris Pinch)
 • Robert Stiltman, "Horrorst" (Chris Pinch)

"Slowly." Make note of Young's smoldering version of Muddy Waters' "Two Trains Running," a definite highlight. The disc also features a four-minute interview with Young that is a nice touch as a final track.—PJV

POP

MICHAEL TOLCHER Sooner or Later (3:38)

Producers: Sam Hollander, Dave Schommer
Writer: M. Tolcher
Publishers: Mikaloy/Charles Koppelman (BMG)
Octone/1 (CD promo)
 Michael Tolcher arrives with quite a story in his back pocket. After an injury dished his Olympic aspirations, the Lovejoy, Ga., native studied music and sharpened his skills playing at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, where his papa was the resident chaplain. With "Sooner or Later," the singer/songwriter/guitarist is aiming to convert the masses to his bold, melodic power pop. Already, first-time writer Tolcher has been used as the theme to ABC's "As We Know It," and its universal theme of making your own decisions and not being afraid of mistakes is so well-executed that top 40 should find this a tasty bait. In the vein of Maroon 5 and Gavin DeGraw, Tolcher has the goods for long-term success.—CT

TRACY BONHAM Shine (4:20)

Producer: not listed
Writer: T. Bonham
Publisher: Little Bon-Bon (ASCAP)
Zoe/Rounder (CD promo)
 Tracy Bonham is a longtime survivor of a potentially battering music industry. And she continues to come out on the other side with something to say that does not imply bitterness for a life that might have entailed greater commercial success. "Shine" is a beautifully written midtempo love song for the one "that held up the sun" in "our teen-age sky." Its instrumentation plays like a live band, along with a flutter of background vocals that contribute a dreamy quality to the song. "Shine" radiates light. Adult top 40, couldn't you use some?—CT

PRINCE Te Amo Corazon (3:39)

Producer: Prince
Writer: Prince
Publisher: not listed
Universal (download)
 Those hoping for the long-awaited, rejuvenated, reinspired return of Prince might want to prepare themselves for yet another

false start. "Te Amo Corazon" is an intriguing composition and more thoughtful and melodic than a lot of the maestro's more recent output—but from a commercial standpoint, the jazzy, lounge-like ballad is not likely to earn any points from radio. Proponents might say that Prince is long past needing approval from the masses, but his recent signing with Universal hints that he is in search of some far-reaching marketing assistance. It is hard to know what to expect from the upcoming full-length "3121," but "Te Amo" is not likely to generate the kind of love to make Prince pop and/or R&B royalty again.—CT

ROCK

SLAVE TO THE SYSTEM Stigmata (3:13)

Producer: Slave to the System
Writers: various
Publisher: various
Spiffire Records (album track)
 When you hear "Stigmata," you will notice that its rhythm guitar is eerily similar to Velvet Revolver's "Sithen." Interestingly, this song was written a few years back, well before that hit began riding the airwaves. That is when Slave to the System recorded an album for kicks, only to have Spiffire Records pick it up years later. The side band of Queensryche drummer Scott Rockfield, ex-Queensryche guitarist, Kelly Gray and Brother Kane members Roman Glick and Damon Johnson shows its strengths on "Stigmata," tight songwriting and production and a good-time modern rock sound made for blasting from your car speakers. The band's style is smooth, but packs a punch. Other quality tunes can be found on Slave to the System's self-titled debut, arriving in February.—CLT

TRIPLE-A

DUNCAN SHEIK White Limousine (3:55)

Producer: not listed
Writer: D. Sheik
Publisher: not listed
Duncan Sheik Songs/Happy Dog/Careers-BMG (BMG)
Rounder (CD promo)
 A heady singer/songwriter Duncan Sheik was never really a mainstream

radio artist. His mid-1990s smash "Barely Breathing" was more or less an anomaly that gave him enough star power to then explore more ethereal pursuits. "White Limousine" the jazzy, lounge-like ballad is not likely to earn any points from radio. Proponents might say that Prince is long past needing approval from the masses, but his recent signing with Universal hints that he is in search of some far-reaching marketing assistance. It is hard to know what to expect from the upcoming full-length "3121," but "Te Amo" is not likely to generate the kind of love to make Prince pop and/or R&B royalty again.—CT

DANCE

JUDY TORRES Faithfully (4:08)

Producer: Valentin
Writer: J. Carr
Publisher: Twist & Shout Music/Wixen Music Publishing/Love Batch Music (ASCAP)
Torres (CD single)
 In recent years, makers of dance music have had a field day revisiting rock anthems from days gone by. Judy Torres, with producer Valentin's latest artist to put her stamp on a tried-and-true chestnut. In this case, it is Journey's 1983 top 15 hit "Faithfully." Back then, it was a bombastic, arm-waving rock ballad. Today, it is a peak-hour energetic stomp, with trance flourishes beautifully coloring a vibrant pop foundation. Front and center is Torres, who is best-known as a Latin freestyle artist—a genre not necessarily known for having the most powerful singers. With "Faithfully," though, Torres displays a renewed vigor in the vocal department. In fact, she sings the song's timeless words as if her life depended on them. Reminiscent of her 2001 remix with another electro beats. An absolute treat is Valentin's unplugged Candlelight Mix. Perhaps this time, the track will go top 10.—MP

LEGENDARY CREDITS

EDITED BY JONATHAN COHEN (ALBUMS) AND CHUCK TAYLOR (SINGLES)
CONTRIBUTORS: Keith Caulfield, Lilla Cobo, Gordon Frey, Ben Frenn, Clover Hope, Gail Mitchell, Michael Ricketts, Sven Pollock, Deborah Evans Price, Chuck Taylor, Chrissy L. Tice, Anastasia Tsoukalas, Philip Van Vleet, Jeff Wabel

PICK #1: A new release predicted to hit the top half of the chart in the corresponding format.

CRITICS' CHOICE #1: A new release, regardless of chart position, highly recommended for musical merit.

All albums commercially available in the United States are eligible. Send album review copies to Jonathan Cohen and singles review copies to Chuck Taylor (both at Billboard, 770 Broadway, Sixth Floor, New York, NY 10003) or to the writers in the appropriate bureau.

THE BOX

A WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF NOTABLE CHART ACHIEVEMENTS



FOX'S WORTHY

"Unpredictable" is not the first album by actor/rapper Jamie Foxx, but it is his biggest. The almost 88,000 copies the set has sold in its first full week practically eclipses release-to-date sales by a 4-to-1 margin over 1994 album "Peep This" (\$35,000).

HIP-HOP HOOBY

With the Notorious B.I.G.'s "Dusky: The Final Chapter" following Mary J. Blige and Jamie Foxx, respectively, the top three rungs on the Billboard 200 are new entries that also reside on Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums. Such a monopoly has not happened since the Nov. 29, 2003, issue, when Jay-Z's "The Black Album" led a R&B soundtrack and G-Unit's "Beg for Mercy."



COMBO AND JOY

You can call which was radio tracking occurred when 14 of the top 15 titles on Hot Christian Adult Contemporary songs are Christmas titles (see page 54). Three of those 14 belong to Mary J. Blige, above at Nos. 1, 9 and 10.

CHART BEAT

READ FRED BRONSON EVERY WEEK AT BILLBOARD.COM/BEAT

>>>On the Billboard 100, "The Breakthrough" is the third No. 1 album for Mary J. Blige, but it is a different story on Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums, where the album is Blige's seventh to land in pole position.

>>>Fred Bronson also reports that almost six months after topping Hot Singles after releasing "Inside Your Heaven" returns to No. 1, while Carrie Underwood's version of the same song rebounds to No. 2. These singles, the top two best sellers of 2005, thus dominate the first chart of 2006.

>>>Also in Chart Beat: how the latest posthumous entry for the Notorious B.I.G. compares with the latter's other charting albums, on the Billboard 200 and Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums.

Billboard CHARTS



Over the Counter

GEOFF MAYFIELD gmayfield@billboard.com

Blige Leads Christmas Surge; Carey Passes 50 Cent

OK, so maybe dropping an album the week before Christmas is not such a bad idea after all, as evidenced by new Billboard 200 queen Mary J. Blige.

Once upon a time, conventional wisdom and my own unsolicited advice suggested that with stores busier than they are in any other week, it might be risky to get an album on shelves just days before Christmas. No worries this year, though, as Blige's "The Breakthrough" rallies by far her biggest Nielsen SoundScan week, while two other Dec. 20 releases also put up handsome numbers.

Blige rules with 727,000 copies, more than double her prior best SoundScan frame, while Jamie Foxx notches 597,500 and late rapper the Notorious B.I.G. adds another 438,000.

One could argue that this trio of new releases had more to do with the small rally in album sales during Christmas week than did the frame's extra shopping day (see story, page 5).

Christmas fell on a Sunday this year, rather than Saturday, as it did in 2004. But subtract the 1.7 million that during the three holiday stands, and volume for the 2005 album season would have trailed last year's peak week by 16%.

This is Blige's third No. 1 on the big chart and her seventh on Top R&B/Hip-

Hop Albums. Her prior best SoundScan week had been 294,000 for "No More Drama" when it bowed at No. 2 on The Billboard 200 in 2001.

Her start is even more impressive when you consider there was little lead time for this album (see story, page 6). Geffen's original intention had been to drop a greatest-hits album with a few new songs during this fourth-quarter drive.

Blige and Foxx might have reached even larger numbers had stores not faced stock outages on both.

There are only four other solo female artists who have mounted larger

SoundScan weeks. Britney Spears did so twice, with "Oops... I Did It Again" starting at 1.3 million and "Britney" at 746,000. Norah Jones' sophomore set began with 1.02 million. Shania Twain's "Up!" launched with 874,000 and Mariah Carey's "Daydream" sold 760,000 during Christmas week of 1995. All of which leaves Blige with the largest debut week in SoundScan history for an R&B album by a solo female.

LEAFPLOG: As suggested here in the last issue of 2005, Mariah Carey's "The Emancipation of Mimi" indeed overtakes 50 Cent's "The Massacre" as the best-selling album of calendar year 2005.

Her game of catch-up is impressive, considering that "The Massacre" had a six-week head start and was the only album this year to ring a 1 million-plus frame. The rapper's set had already sold more than 2.9 million units before "Mimi" reached stores.

Although some pundits questioned whether Carey needed to launch a special edition, which added No. 1 hit "Don't Forget About Us" to her impressive tally of chart-toppers, the title's numbers have grown since that edition arrived, selling 1.1 million copies in those six weeks.

Carey's set has averaged 189,000 copies per week since the Thanksgiving frame, while "The Massacre" has averaged close to 20,000 in that same window. This week, for example, she rises 7-6 on The Billboard 200 with 290,000 sold (up 52%), compared with 30,000 for 50 Cent (127,125, up 38%).

This week's numbers nudge her ahead by the score of 4.87 million to 4.83 million. Last week, 50 Cent led release-to-date sales by 229,000 copies. So, unless some nefarious or otherwise incredible news event during the year's final frame causes weekly sales for "The Massacre" to increase by a hundredfold, we can assume Carey will still hold the lead when next issue's charts conclude Nielsen SoundScan's tracking year.

Questions to ponder: Some of the remaining songs from the original "Mimi" edition have the potential to be big multi-format radio hits. Had the label ridden one of those songs as a next single, rather than adding "Forget" to a new edition, could Carey have mounted the same kind of end-of-year charge?

And, did the soundtrack to "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," which has sold 1.04 million copies since its Nov. 1 release, in any way cannibalize the numbers for "The Massacre"? ----



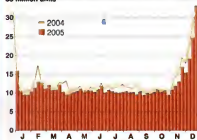
BLIGE

Market Watch WEEKLY UNIT SALES

	ALBUMS	SINGLE TRACKS	DIGITAL TRACKS
This Week	33,244,000	94,000	9,563,000
Last Week	24,775,000	81,000	7,729,000
Change	34.2%	16.0%	23.7%
This Week Last Year	32,707,000	134,000	5,046,000
Change	1.6%	-29.5%	66.5%

WEEKLY ALBUM SALES

35 million units



A Weekly National Music Sales Report

YEAR-TO-DATE

	2004	2005	CHANGE
OVERALL UNIT SALES			
Albums*	665,496,000	602,181,000	-9.5%
Single Stores	7,331,000	4,931,000	-32.7%
Digital Tracks	135,904,000	332,749,000	144.8%
Total	808,685,000	939,861,000	15.8%

*2004 data beginning with week ending Jan. 6

ADJUSTED SALES**

Albums	850,794,000	602,181,000	-7.5%
Albums w/TEA***	864,384,400	635,455,900	-4.4%

**2004 data beginning with week ending Jan. 11 in a 52-week comparison.

***Includes first equivalent album sales (TEA) with 10 weeks equivalent to one album sale.



SALES BY ALBUM FORMAT

CD	817,594,000	582,988,000	-5.6%
Cassette	9,781,000	2,823,000	-70.1%
Digital	5,592,000	15,463,000	266.5%
Other	1,553,000	1,087,000	-30.0%

For week ending Dec. 25, 2005. Figures are rounded. Compiled from 8 national samples of retail stores and radio sales reports collected and provided by

Nielsen SoundScan

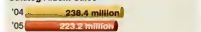
YEAR-TO-DATE SALES BY ALBUM CATEGORY

	2004	2005	CHANGE
Current	427,141,000	379,023,000	-11.3%
Catalog	236,355,000	223,158,000	-6.4%
Deep Catalog	165,094,000	153,145,000	-7.2%

Current Album Sales



Catalog Album Sales



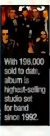
Nielsen SoundScan counts as current only sales within the first 18 months of an album's release (12 months for classical and jazz albums). Titles that stay in the top half of The Billboard 200, however, remain as current. Titles older than 18 months are catalog. Deep catalog is a subset of catalog for titles out more than 36 months.

Jan 7 2006

Billboard 200

ALL DATA COMPILED BY
Nielsen
SoundScan

WEEK	LAST WEEK	PEAK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	Album	Label	Price	Album Sales	Single Sales	Album Title	Album Rating
1		1	1	MARY J. BLIGE	The Breakthrough	A&M	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Breakthrough	1
2	NEW	2	2	JAMIE FOXX	Unpredictable	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Unpredictable	2
3	NEW	3	3	THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.	Duets: The Final Chapter	Atlantic	\$19.98	10,000	0	Duets: The Final Chapter	3
4	1	1	1	EMINEM	Curtain Call: The Hits	Aftermath	\$19.98	10,000	0	Curtain Call: The Hits	4
5	2	5	5	GREATEST HITS	Carrie Underwood	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Carrie Underwood	5
6	7	8	8	MARIAN CAREY	The Emancipation Of Mimi	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Emancipation Of Mimi	6
7	3	3	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Now 20	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Now 20	7
8	5	6	6	KENNY CHESNEY	The Road And The Radio	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Road And The Radio	8
9	11	12	12	NICKELBACK	All The Right Reasons	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	All The Right Reasons	9
10	8	7	7	KELLY CLARKSON	Breakaway	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Breakaway	10
11	10	11	11	THE BLACK EYED PEAS	Monkey Business	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Monkey Business	11
12	14	15	15	CHRIS BROWN	Chris Brown	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Chris Brown	12
13	16	17	17	ENYA	Amariante	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Amariante	13
14	10	12	12	JOHNNY CASH	The Legend Of Johnny Cash	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Legend Of Johnny Cash	14
15	13	14	14	RASCAL FLATTS	Feels Like Today	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Feels Like Today	15
16	4	4	4	BO BICE	The Real Thing	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Real Thing	16
17	15	16	16	MADONNA	Confessions On A Dance Floor	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Confessions On A Dance Floor	17
18	16	18	18	FALL OUT BOY	From Under The Tree	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	From Under The Tree	18
19	19	20	20	FAITH HILL	Fireflies	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Fireflies	19
20	18	21	21	GREEN DAY	American Idiot	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	American Idiot	20
21	21	22	22	TRACE ADKINS	Songs About Me	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Songs About Me	21
22	22	23	23	SYSTEM OF A DOWN	Hypnotize	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Hypnotize	22
23	23	24	24	LIL WAYNE	The Carter II	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Carter II	23
24	24	25	25	RENEE ZETTERGREN	Rebar: #1's	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Rebar: #1's	24
25	25	26	26	KEITH URBAN	Be Here 2	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Be Here 2	25
26	26	27	27	THE PUSYCAT DOLLS	PCD	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	PCD	26
27	27	28	28	MARTINA MCBRIDE	Timelapse	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Timelapse	27
28	28	29	29	KOHN	See You On The Other Side	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	See You On The Other Side	28
29	29	30	30	BIG & RICH	Comin' To Your City	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Comin' To Your City	29
30	30	31	31	SUGARLAND	Twice The Speed Of Life	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Twice The Speed Of Life	30
31	31	32	32	SOUNDTRACK	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	31
32	32	33	33	DESTINY'S CHILD	#1's	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	#1's	32
33	33	34	34	KANYE WEST	Late Registration	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Late Registration	33
34	34	35	35	LUDACRIS AND DTP	Ludacris Presents...Disturbing The Peace	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Ludacris Presents...Disturbing The Peace	34
35	35	36	36	GRETCHEN WILSON	All Jeked Up	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	All Jeked Up	35
36	36	37	37	HILARY DUFF	Most Wanted	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Most Wanted	36
37	37	38	38	ROD STEWART	Thanks For The Memory...The Great American Songbook Vol. IV	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Thanks For The Memory...The Great American Songbook Vol. IV	37
38	38	39	39	DADDY YANKEE	Bario Fino: En Directo	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Bario Fino: En Directo	38
39	39	40	40	DIANA KRALL FEATURING THE CLAYTON HAMILTON JAZZ ORCHESTRA	Charmaine	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Charmaine	39
40	40	41	41	GORILLAZ	Gemon Days	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Gemon Days	40
41	41	42	42	OWEN STEFAN	Love Angel: Music, Baby	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Love Angel: Music, Baby	41
42	42	43	43	SHAKIRA	Oral Fixation Vol. 2	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Oral Fixation Vol. 2	42
43	43	44	44	COLDOPLA	X&Y	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	X&Y	43
44	44	45	45	IL DIVO	The Christmas Collection	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Christmas Collection	44
45	45	46	46	DIERKS BENTLEY	Modern Day Drifter	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Modern Day Drifter	45
46	46	47	47	BON JOVI	Have A Nice Day	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Have A Nice Day	46
47	47	48	48	MICHELLE BUBBLE	It's Time	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	It's Time	47
48	48	49	49	GREEN DAY	Back In A Breeze	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Back In A Breeze	48
49	49	50	50	JAMES BLUNT	Built To Suffer	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Built To Suffer	49
50	50	51	51	SOUNDTRACK	Walk The Line	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Walk The Line	50



WEEK	LAST WEEK	PEAK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	Album	Label	Price	Album Sales	Single Sales	Album Title	Album Rating
51	47	48	48	ASHLEY SIMPSON	I Am Me	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	I Am Me	51
52	51	52	52	NELLY	Sweatshirt	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Sweatshirt	52
53	52	53	53	SANTANA	All That I Am	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	All That I Am	53
54	53	54	54	ALICIA KEYS	Unplugged	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Unplugged	54
55	54	55	55	NEIL DIAMOND	12 Songs	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	12 Songs	55
56	55	56	56	ANTHONY HAMILTON	Am I Nobody Worryin'	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Am I Nobody Worryin'	56
57	56	57	57	SCOTT STARR	The Great Divide	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Great Divide	57
58	57	58	58	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WOW Hits 2006	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	WOW Hits 2006	58
59	58	59	59	BROOKS & DUNN	Hillbilly Deluxe	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Hillbilly Deluxe	59
60	59	60	60	DISTURBED	Ten Thousand Fists	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Ten Thousand Fists	60
61	60	61	61	YOUNG JEEZY	Let's Get It: Thug Motivation 101	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Let's Get It: Thug Motivation 101	61
62	61	62	62	LINDSEY LOHAN	A Little More Personal (Raw)	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	A Little More Personal (Raw)	62
63	62	63	63	JUELZ SANTANA	Whet The Game's Been Missing?	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Whet The Game's Been Missing?	63
64	63	64	64	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Now 19	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Now 19	64
65	64	65	65	SOUNDTRACK	The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	65
66	65	66	66	BILLY CURRINGTON	Doin' Somethin' Right	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Doin' Somethin' Right	66
67	66	67	67	BRAD PASTIS	Time Well Wasted	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Time Well Wasted	67
68	67	68	68	JOHN JOHNSON	The Long Road Home: The Ultimate Jim Fogarty-Chicago Collection	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Long Road Home: The Ultimate Jim Fogarty-Chicago Collection	68
69	68	69	69	JACK JOHNSON	In Between Dreams	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	In Between Dreams	69
70	69	70	70	CHAMILLIONAIRE	The Sound Of Revenge	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Sound Of Revenge	70
71	70	71	71	D4L	Down For Real	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Down For Real	71
72	71	72	72	SHERYL CROW	Wildflower	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Wildflower	72
73	72	73	73	THE ALL-AMERICAN JECKS	Move Along	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Move Along	73
74	73	74	74	TOBY KEITH	Honkytonk University	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Honkytonk University	74
75	74	75	75	BOW WOW	Wanted	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Wanted	75
76	75	76	76	INKS	Switch	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Switch	76
77	76	77	77	KEYSHIA COLE	The Way It Is	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	The Way It Is	77
78	77	78	78	GRETCHEN WILSON	Here For The Party	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Here For The Party	78
79	78	79	79	KIDZ BOP KIDS	Kidd Bop 6	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Kidd Bop 6	79
80	79	80	80	SARA EVANS	Real Fine Place	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Real Fine Place	80
81	80	81	81	THIRD DAY	Wherever You Are	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Wherever You Are	81
82	81	82	82	BLIND-182	Greatest Hits	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Greatest Hits	82
83	82	83	83	SOUNDTRACK	Selections From The Original Motion Picture	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Selections From The Original Motion Picture	83
84	83	84	84	DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE	Piñs	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Piñs	84
85	84	85	85	SOUNDTRACK	Rent	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Rent	85
86	85	86	86	DANE COOK	Retaliation	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Retaliation	86
87	86	87	87	JESSE MCCARTNEY	Beautiful Soul	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Beautiful Soul	87
88	87	88	88	KIRK FRANKLIN	Hero	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Hero	88
89	88	89	89	THE KILLERS	Hot Fuss	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Hot Fuss	89
90	89	90	90	NEAL YOUNG	Prairie Wind	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Prairie Wind	90
91	90	91	91	MIRANDA LAMBERT	Kerosene	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Kerosene	91
92	91	92	92	JOHN MAYER TRIO	Try! Live In Concert	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Try! Live In Concert	92
93	92	93	93	WEEZER	Make Believe	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Make Believe	93
94	93	94	94	FIONA APPLE	Extraordinary Machine	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Extraordinary Machine	94
95	94	95	95	FACE (FEATURING) MATISYAHU	Live At Stubbs	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Live At Stubbs	95
96	95	96	96	MICHELLE BUBBLE	Caught In The Act	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Caught In The Act	96
97	96	97	97	ALY & AJ	Into The Rush	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Into The Rush	97
98	97	98	98	JOE NICHOLS	Official South Beach (CD)	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	Official South Beach (CD)	98



THE BILLBOARD 200 ARTIST INDEX

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62	61	62	62	LINDSEY LOHAN	A Little More Personal (Raw)	Capitol	\$19.98	10,000	0	A Little More Personal (Raw)

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30 Under 30

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MUSIC & MONEY:

Billboard Music & Money
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LL Cool J

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BILLBOARD STARS:

Blondie

AD CLOSE: FEBRUARY 21

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DATE	ARTIST	ARTIST'S NUMBER / DISK/STREET LABEL (PRICE)	TIME
101	81	BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN THE BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN CD (15.95) R	Born To Run: 30th Anniversary Edition
102	81	MONTGOMERY GENTRY MONTGOMERY GENTRY CD (15.95) R	Something To Be Proud Of: The Best Of 1999-2005
103	100	GUNS N' ROSES GUNS N' ROSES CD (15.95) R	Greatest Hits
104	111	THREE 6 MAFIA THREE 6 MAFIA CD (15.95) R	Most Known Unknown
105	89	CASTING CROWNS CASTING CROWNS CD (15.95) R	Lifelong
106	86	IL DIVO IL DIVO CD (15.95) R	Il Divo
107	101	LITTLE BIG TOP LITTLE BIG TOP CD (15.95) R	The Road To Here
108	117	SYSTEM OF A DOWN SYSTEM OF A DOWN CD (15.95) R	Mezzanotte
109	81	DAVE MATTHEWS BAND DAVE MATTHEWS BAND CD (15.95) R	Weekend On The Rocks
110	94	EPAIN EPAIN CD (15.95) R	Regga Tint Sings
111	84	YOUNGLOOZ YOUNGLOOZ CD (15.95) R	Er'body Know Me
112	105	PAUL MCCARTNEY PAUL MCCARTNEY CD (15.95) R	Chaos And Creation In The Backyard
113	121	SEAN PAUL SEAN PAUL CD (15.95) R	The Trinity
114	97	CELTIC WOMAN CELTIC WOMAN CD (15.95) R	Celtic Woman
115	102	AVENGED SEVENFOLD AVENGED SEVENFOLD CD (15.95) R	City Of Evil
116	110	GARY ALLAN GARY ALLAN CD (15.95) R	Tough All Over
117	118	SWITCHFOOT SWITCHFOOT CD (15.95) R	Nothing Is Sound
118	110	BIG & RICH BIG & RICH CD (15.95) R	Honor Of A Different Color
119	123	FOG FIGHTERS FOG FIGHTERS CD (15.95) R	In Your Honor
120	115	STEVE DUNN STEVE DUNN CD (15.95) R	A Time To Love
121	121	BARBRA STREISAND BARBRA STREISAND CD (15.95) R	Gully Pleasures
122	101	THE BRIAN SEAN RITCHIE ORCHESTRA THE BRIAN SEAN RITCHIE ORCHESTRA CD (15.95) R	Dig That Crazy Christmas
123	96	YANKEE ARTISTS YANKEE ARTISTS CD (15.95) R	40 Years A Charlie Brown Christmas
124	121	ROB THOMAS ROB THOMAS CD (15.95) R	...Something To Be
125	127	SO CENT SO CENT CD (15.95) R	The Massacre
126	135	JOHN MCCRAW JOHN MCCRAW CD (15.95) R	Live Like You Were Dying
127	135	HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS CD (15.95) R	The Silence In Black And White
128	154	THE ROLLING STONES THE ROLLING STONES CD (15.95) R	A Bigger Bang
129	154	THE WINOUS MONK QUARTET WITH JOHN COLTRANE THE WINOUS MONK QUARTET WITH JOHN COLTRANE CD (15.95) R	At Carnegie Hall
130	121	AUDIOSlave AUDIOSlave CD (15.95) R	Out Of Exile
131	134	PAUL WALL PAUL WALL CD (15.95) R	The Peoples Champ
132	150	RAY J RAY J CD (15.95) R	Revelation
133	114	CHRIS BOTTI CHRIS BOTTI CD (15.95) R	To Love Again: The Duet
134	137	LIFESHOUS LIFESHOUS CD (15.95) R	Lifeshous
135	130	STAFANO STAFANO CD (15.95) R	Chapter V
136	157	FLOETRY FLOETRY CD (15.95) R	Pier Ology
137	143	ASHANTI ASHANTI CD (15.95) R	Collectables by Ashanti
138	93	KENNY G KENNY G CD (15.95) R	The Greatest Holiday Classics
139	116	DOOM OMAR DOOM OMAR CD (15.95) R	De Hilman Presents Reggaeton Latino
140	156	CHIARA CHIARA CD (15.95) R	Goodies
141	138	THE WHITE STRIPES THE WHITE STRIPES CD (15.95) R	Get Behind Me Satan
142	152	NIRVANA NIRVANA CD (15.95) R	Sliver: The Best Of The Box
143	147	DEPECHE MODE DEPECHE MODE CD (15.95) R	Playing The Angel
144	151	RYAN ADAMS RYAN ADAMS CD (15.95) R	29
145	101	MERCURY MERCURY CD (15.95) R	The Christmas Sessions
146	161	ERIC CLAPTON ERIC CLAPTON CD (15.95) R	Beck Home
147	156	HOWARD SEARAT HOWARD SEARAT CD (15.95) R	How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb
148	152	GEORGE STRAIT GEORGE STRAIT CD (15.95) R	Somewhere Down In Texas
149	147	SHAKIRA SHAKIRA CD (15.95) R	Fijación Oral Vol. 1
150	161	RIHANNA RIHANNA CD (15.95) R	Music Of The Sun

Rolls don't compare with last week's record (22,000) since October, CD came out \$7.99 at Target and Best Buy.

Album has sold 119,000 to date. The group's five numbers have sold over 1.5 million since Jan. 10.

Sell since 66% courtesy of \$11.98 price at Target and Dec. 2



Rank	Artist	Album	Label	Price	Title
181	BOHANN RAITT	CAUTION (120) (18.98)			Soule Alike
182	TRINIA	THE TRINIA ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Glamorous Life
183	DAMIAN "D" GONG MARLEY	THE D'AMIAN "D" GONG MARLEY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Welcome To Jamrock
184	SHINEDOWN	THE SHINEDOWN ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Life And Death
185	TRISHA YARWOOD	THE TRISHA YARWOOD ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Jasper County
186	THE CHESTNUT GIRLS	THE CHESTNUT GIRLS ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Chestnut-Infused Christmas
187	BEASTIE BOYS	THE BEASTIE BOYS ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Sold Out Christmas
188	DAVID GRAY	THE DAVID GRAY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Life In Slow Motion
189	TONI BRAXTON	THE TONI BRAXTON ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Libra
190	VARIOUS ARTISTS	THE VARIOUS ARTISTS ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Imagined By The Chronicles Of Martin: The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe
191	BRITNY	THE BRITNY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Rock Angel
192	SHANIA TWAIN	THE SHANIA TWAIN ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Greatest Hits
193	BUN B	THE BUN B ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Trill
194	CHRIS CAGLE	THE CHRIS CAGLE ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Anywhere But Here
195	FRANZ FERDINAND	THE FRANZ FERDINAND ALBUM (120) (18.98)			You Could Have It So Much Better
196	VARIOUS ARTISTS	THE VARIOUS ARTISTS ALBUM (120) (18.98)			WOW Christmas (Green)
197	MELISSA ETHERIDGE	THE MELISSA ETHERIDGE ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Greatest Hits: The Road Less Traveled
198	RECKY MARTIN	THE RECKY MARTIN ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Life
199	PRIETY RICKY	THE PRIETY RICKY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Blueprints
200	JASON ALDEAN	THE JASON ALDEAN ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Jason Aldean
201	BETTE MIDLER	THE BETTE MIDLER ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Bette Midler Sings The Peggy Lee Songbook
202	HIM	THE HIM ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Dark Light
203	THE ROLLING STONES	THE ROLLING STONES ALBUM (120) (18.98)			The Best Of The Rolling Stones: Jump Back! 7-9
204	SUPRNO	THE SUPRNO ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Good Vibrations
205	GEORGE STRAIT	THE GEORGE STRAIT ALBUM (120) (18.98)			50 Number Ones
206	ALANIS MORISSETTE	THE ALANIS MORISSETTE ALBUM (120) (18.98)			The Collection
207	THE CLUCK FIVE	THE CLUCK FIVE ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Greetings From Imrie House
208	USHER	THE USHER ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Confessions
209	RELENT K	THE RELENT K ALBUM (120) (18.98)			MM-MM
210	GRUWINE	THE GRUWINE ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Back In The Basics
211	KENNY CHESNEY	THE KENNY CHESNEY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			When The Sun Goes Down
212	JIMMY BUFFETT	THE JIMMY BUFFETT ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Live At Fenway Park
213	LYFE JENNINGS	THE LYFE JENNINGS ALBUM (120) (18.98)			LYFE 268-192
214	COHECO AND CAMBRIA	THE COHECO AND CAMBRIA ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Good Apollo I'm Burning Star V...
215	MANIC AT THE GUNGE	THE MANIC AT THE GUNGE ALBUM (120) (18.98)			A Fever You Can't Sweat Out
216	PITBULL	THE PITBULL ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Money Is Still A Major Issue
217	JESSE MCCARTNEY	THE JESSE MCCARTNEY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Live: The Beautiful Soul
218	SOUNDTRACK	THE SOUNDTRACK ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Chosen One
219	VARIOUS ARTISTS	THE VARIOUS ARTISTS ALBUM (120) (18.98)			DisneyRemixes
220	LARRY THE CABLE GUY	THE LARRY THE CABLE GUY ALBUM (120) (18.98)			The Right To Be Wrong
221	BOB DYLAN	THE BOB DYLAN ALBUM (120) (18.98)			No Direction Home: The Soundtrack: The Bootleg Series Vol. 5
222	THEY SONOG	THE THEY SONOG ALBUM (120) (18.98)			I Gotta Make It
223	JEREMY CAMP	THE JEREMY CAMP ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Live - Unplugged: Franklin, TN
224	TWISTA	THE TWISTA ALBUM (120) (18.98)			The Day After
225	HERBIE HANCOCK	THE HERBIE HANCOCK ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Possibilities
226	MIKE JONES	THE MIKE JONES ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Who Is Mike Jones?
227	SKAUNTIN	THE SKAUNTIN ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Madagascar
228	ANITA BAKER	THE ANITA BAKER ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Christmas Fantasy
229	RBD	THE RBD ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Nuestro Amor
230	THE ROLLING STONES	THE ROLLING STONES ALBUM (120) (18.98)			Rarities 1971-2003

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100 Billboard

THE BILLBOARD HOT 100

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST	WEEKS ON CHART	LAST WEEK
1	1	1. DON'T FORGET ABOUT US	Mariah Carey	1	1
2	1	2. RUN IT	Chris Brown	1	2
3	1	3. GRILLZ	Nelly Featuring Paul Wall, Ali & Gipp	1	3
4	1	4. LAFFY TAFFY	D4L	1	4
5	1	5. PHOTOGRAPH	The Pussycat Dolls	1	5
6	1	6. STICKITUP	Kelly Clarkson	1	6
7	1	7. GREATEST HITS	Beyoncé Featuring Slim Thug	1	7
8	1	8. GOLD DIGGER	Kanye West Featuring Jamie Foxx	1	8
9	1	9. THERE IT GO (THE WHISTLE SONG)	Juvenile	1	9
10	1	10. MY HUMPS	The Black Eyed Peas	1	10
11	1	11. BECAUSE OF YOU	Kelly Clarkson	1	11
12	1	12. ONE WISH	Rey J	1	12
13	1	13. SOUL SURVIVOR	Young Jeezy Featuring Lil Wayne	1	13
14	1	14. DANCE, DANCE	Fei Ut Boy	1	14
15	1	15. I THINK THEY LIKE ME	Don Francisco Boyz Feat. Jermaine Dupri, De La & Bow Wow	1	15
16	1	16. SUGAR, WE'RE GOIN' DOWN	Paula Abdul	1	16
17	1	17. STAY FLY	Three 6 Mafia Featuring 50 Cent & Eminem	1	17
18	1	18. WHEN I'M GONE	Eminem	1	18
19	1	19. I'M SPRUNG	Eminem	1	19
20	1	20. DIRTY LITTLE SECRET	The All-American Rejects	1	20
21	1	21. WE'RE BURNIN'	Sean Paul	1	21
22	1	22. HUNG UP	Madonna	1	22
23	1	23. YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	James Blunt	1	23
24	1	24. SO SICK	Daughtry	1	24
25	1	25. UNPREDICTABLE	James Blunt	1	25
26	1	26. HERE WE GO	Travis	1	26
27	1	27. LUXURIOUS	Timbaland	1	27
28	1	28. BEVERLY HILLS	Timbaland	1	28
29	1	29. YOU AND ME	Lifehouse	1	29
30	1	30. WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	Green Day	1	30
31	1	31. FEEL GOOD INC.	Green Day	1	31
32	1	32. JESUS, TAKE THE WHEEL	Carrie Underwood	1	32
33	1	33. HONKY TONK BANG	Trace Adkins	1	33
34	1	34. HEARD ME SAY	Kanye West Featuring Jamie Foxx	1	34
35	1	35. IF IT'S LOVIN' THAT YOU WANT	Shawnna	1	35
36	1	36. DON'T CHA	The Pussycat Dolls Featuring Baby Face Rhythms	1	36
37	1	37. FIREMAN	Timbaland	1	37
38	1	38. KRYPTONITE (I'M ON IT)	Purple Ribbon All-Stars	1	38
39	1	39. UNWRITTEN	Nellya Bedingfield	1	39
40	1	40. TURN IT UP	Cherelline featuring Lela Watson	1	40
41	1	41. GEORGIA	Ludacris & Field Mob Featuring James Fortune	1	41
42	1	42. WE BELONG TOGETHER	Mariah Carey	1	42
43	1	43. MUST BE DOIN' SOMETHIN' RIGHT	Billy Currington	1	43
44	1	44. NASTY GIRL	The Notorious B.I.G. Feat. Diddy, Nelly, Jagged Edge & Avery Storm	1	44
45	1	45. I SHOULD HAVE CHEATED	Timbaland	1	45
46	1	46. COME A LITTLE CLOSER	Destiny Fierasty	1	46
47	1	47. TEQUILA MAKES HER CLOTHES FALL OFF	John Rocha	1	47
48	1	48. WINDOW SHOPPER	50 Cent	1	48
49	1	49. GIRL TONITE	Twista Featuring Trey Songz	1	49
50	1	50. EVERYTIME WE TOUCH	Eminem	1	50
51	1	51. SHAKE THAT	Eminem	1	51
52	1	52. UNBREAKABLE	Alvaro	1	52

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST	WEEKS ON CHART	LAST WEEK
53	1	53. L.O.V.E.	Ashlee Simpson	1	53
54	1	54. BLOODKNOTS	Little Big Town	1	54
55	1	55. LIKE WE NEVER LOVED AT ALL	Fethi	1	55
56	1	56. SHE LET HERSELF GO	George Strait	1	56
57	1	57. HYPONOTIZE	System of a Down	1	57
58	1	58. KUMPF IT	The Black Eyed Peas	1	58
59	1	59. PERFECT SITUATION	Wycle D	1	59
60	1	60. SOUL MEETS BODY	Death Cab for Cutie	1	60
61	1	61. SHAKE	Ying Yang Twinz Featuring Pistol	1	61
62	1	62. WHEN I GET WHERE I'M GOING	Paula Abdul	1	62
63	1	63. TOUCH IT	Shawnna	1	63
64	1	64. FRESH AIGHT	Bow Wow Featuring J-Kwon & Jermaine Dupri	1	64
65	1	65. RODEO	Juvenile	1	65
66	1	66. BAT COUNTRY	Avenged Sevenfold	1	66
67	1	67. YOU (EXCUSE ME MISS)	Chris Brown	1	67
68	1	68. I'M IN LUV (WIT A STRIPPER)	Timbaland	1	68
69	1	69. TWISTED TRANSISTOR	Korn	1	69
70	1	70. BOYFRIEND	Ashlee Simpson	1	70
71	1	71. HAVE A NICE DAY	Don J	1	71
72	1	72. GOTTA GO	Travis	1	72
73	1	73. DOA	Don J	1	73
74	1	74. MISS ME BABY	Chris Care	1	74
75	1	75. DON'T BOTHER	Shawnna	1	75
76	1	76. BETTER LIFE	Keith Urban	1	76
77	1	77. SAVE ME	Shawnna	1	77
78	1	78. REMEDY	Shawnna	1	78
79	1	79. GOOD RIDE COWBOY	Gary Brown	1	79
80	1	80. JUST MIGHT (MAKE ME BELIEVE)	Sugarland	1	80
81	1	81. KEROSENE	Miranda Lambert	1	81
82	1	82. LOOKING FOR YOU	Kirk Franklin	1	82
83	1	83. MORE THAN WORDS	Frankie J	1	83
84	1	84. LEASONS OF LOVE	Carrie Underwood	1	84
85	1	85. BELIEVE I'LL WANA CRY	Keith Urban	1	85
86	1	86. WHO I AM HATES WHO I'VE BEEN	Robert K	1	86
87	1	87. PRESIDENTIAL	YoungBloodZ	1	87
88	1	88. THE FLOOR	Twista Featuring Shawnna	1	88
89	1	89. MY OLD FRIEND	Timbaland	1	89
90	1	90. TAKATA	Wendy & Noyd	1	90
91	1	91. SKIN (SARABETH)	Rascal Flatts	1	91
92	1	92. MY HOOD	Young Jeezy	1	92
93	1	93. YOUR MAN	Wick	1	93

RADIO CANNOT 'FORGET' CAREY

After climbing to the summit of The Billboard Hot 100 for the 17th time in her career during Billboard's unpublished week, Mariah Carey holds court with "Don't Forget About Us." The track also topped Hot Digital Songs in the unpublished week as 39,000 downloads, but is pushed

down a slot by D4L's "Laffy Taffy," despite a 27% sales increase (49,500 downloads). "Forget" is Carey's 11th Hot 100 Airplay chart-topper and her third consecutive on that list following "We Belong Together" and "Shake It Off." —*Slavia Pietrolungo*

JAN
7
2006

Billboard

POP 100

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (ARTIST / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (ARTIST / PROMOTION LABEL)
1	17	RUN IT	THE BLACK EYED PEAS (JIVE/REPRISE)	51	49	BOYFRIEND	ASHLEY TISDALE (JIVE)
2	13	STICKWIT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	52	48	LIKE YOU	DAVID NIXON (JIVE)
3	2	DO NOT FORGET ABOUT US	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	53	1	UNPREDICTABLE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
4	5	PHOTOGRAPH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	54	2	YOU'LL THINK OF ME	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
5	19	BECAUSE OF YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	55	3	PERFECT SITUATION	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
6	22	GOLD DIGGER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	56	4	TURN IT UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
7	18	CHECK ON IT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	57	5	WALK AWAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
8	11	LAFFY TAPPY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	58	6	DO NOT LIE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
9	22	MY HUMPS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	59	7	WINDOW SHOPPER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
10	29	SUGAR, WE'RE GOIN' DOWN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	60	8	TEQUILA MAKES HER CLOTHES FALL OFF	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
11	24	DIRTY LITTLE SECRET	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	61	9	HAVE A NICE DAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
12	14	DANCE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	62	10	MUST BE DOIN' SOMETHING RIGHT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
13	11	GRILLZ	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	63	11	SEASONS OF LOVE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
14	18	WHEN I'M GONE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	64	12	CRAWLING BACK TO YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
15	12	IF IT'S LOVIN' THAT YOU WANT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	65	13	HERE I AM	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
16	10	SOUL SURVIVOR	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	66	14	COME A LITTLE CLOSER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
17	13	WE'RE BURIN'	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	67	15	HYPOTHYSE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
18	19	IT HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	68	16	SHAKE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
19	16	BEVERLY HILLS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	69	17	LIKE WE NEVER LEFT AT ALL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
20	23	YOU AND ME	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	70	18	BOONDOCKS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
21	20	STAY FLY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	71	19	BAT COUNTRY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
22	27	YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	72	20	BEEP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
23	24	FEEL GOOD INC.	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	73	21	CATCH YOUR WAVE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
24	31	UNWRITTEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	74	22	COOL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
25	28	ONE WISH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	75	23	WELCOMED 2 DETROIT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
26	25	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	76	24	DARE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
27	22	HERE WE GO	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	77	25	FIX YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
28	19	EVERYTIME WE TOUCH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	78	26	PLAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
29	16	PUMP IT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	79	27	KRYPTONITE I'M ON IT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
30	13	SHAKE IT OFF	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	80	28	STARS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
31	10	SO SICK	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	81	29	BRUN (GABARITH)	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
32	7	I LOVE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	82	30	WHEN I GET WHERE I'M GOING	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
33	4	THINK YOU LIKE ME	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	83	31	SO LOVELY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
34	1	YOUR BODY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	84	32	GONE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
35	29	GEORGIA	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	85	33	WHO YOU'D BE TODAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
36	26	BE WITHOUT YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	86	34	CHERRY CHERRY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
37	23	HONKY TONK BADOINKAONK	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	87	35	FLY AWAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
38	20	HEARD 'EM SAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	88	36	TO (EXCUSE ME MISS)	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
39	17	DON'T BOTHER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	89	37	INSIDE YOUR HEAVEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
40	14	JUST THE GIRL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	90	38	KEROSENE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
41	11	JESUS TAKE THE WHEEL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	91	39	PRESIDENTIAL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
42	8	SHAKE IT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	92	40	GIRL TONITE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
43	5	MORE THAN WORDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	93	41	FRESH ADVICE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
44	2	BETTER DAYS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	94	42	TOUCH IT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
45	30	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	95	43		
46	27	BECAUSE OF YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	96	44		
47	24	STAY FLY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	97	45		
48	21	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	98	46		
49	18	GRILLZ	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	99	47		
50	15	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	100	48		

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POP 100 AIRPLAY

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (ARTIST / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (ARTIST / PROMOTION LABEL)
1	15	RUN IT	THE BLACK EYED PEAS (JIVE/REPRISE)	26	21	BEVERLY HILLS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
2	8	STICKWIT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	27	22	FEEL GOOD INC.	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
3	1	DO NOT FORGET ABOUT US	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	28	23	SHAKE IT OFF	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
4	25	PHOTOGRAPH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	29	24	STAY FLY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
5	19	BECAUSE OF YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	30	25	EVERYTIME WE TOUCH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
6	12	CHECK ON IT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	31	26	MORE THAN WORDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
7	5	GOLD DIGGER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	32	27	YOUR BODY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
8	28	IF IT'S LOVIN' THAT YOU WANT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	33	28	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
9	21	SUGAR, WE'RE GOIN' DOWN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	34	29	GRILLZ	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
10	14	DIRTY LITTLE SECRET	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	35	30	WALK AWAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
11	7	MY HUMPS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	36	31	HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
12	31	LUXURIOUS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	37	32	BELLY DANCE (BANANZA)	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
13	24	WHEN I'M GONE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	38	33	WHO I AM HATES WHO I'VE BEEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
14	17	I'M SPRUNG	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	39	34	DO NOT BOTHER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
15	10	WE'RE BURIN'	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	40	35	CRAWLING BACK TO YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
16	3	LAFFY TAPPY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	41	36	SHAKE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
17	26	HERE I AM	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	42	37	I LOVE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
18	19	DANCE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	43	38	LIKE YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
19	12	SO SICK	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	44	39	SHAKE THAT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
20	5	SOUL SURVIVOR	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	45	40	BEEP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
21	28	ONE WISH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	46	41	GIRL NEXT DOOR	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
22	21	YOU AND ME	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	47	42	JUST THE GIRL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
23	14	UNWRITTEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	48	43	DO NOT LIE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
24	7	IT HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	49	44	MAMAMITA	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
25	30	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	50	45		

HOT SINGLES SALES

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (ARTIST / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (ARTIST / PROMOTION LABEL)
1	26	INSIDE YOUR HEAVEN VEHICLE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	26	21	BEVERLY HILLS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
2	19	INSIDE YOUR HEAVEN VEHICLE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	27	22	FEEL GOOD INC.	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
3	12	HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	28	23	SHAKE IT OFF	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
4	5	JUICEBOX	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	29	24	STAY FLY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
5	28	DIRTY LITTLE SECRET	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	30	25	EVERYTIME WE TOUCH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
6	21	ONE WISH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	31	26	MORE THAN WORDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
7	14	THINK YOU LIKE ME	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	32	27	YOUR BODY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
8	7	I AM NOT CORAZON	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	33	28	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
9	30	FEEL GOOD INC.	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	34	29	GRILLZ	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
10	23	WALK AWAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	35	30	WALK AWAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
11	16	LAFFY TAPPY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	36	31	HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
12	9	HERE I AM	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	37	32	BELLY DANCE (BANANZA)	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
13	2	DANCE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	38	33	WHO I AM HATES WHO I'VE BEEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
14	25	SO SICK	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	39	34	DO NOT BOTHER	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
15	18	SOUL SURVIVOR	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	40	35	CRAWLING BACK TO YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
16	11	ONE WISH	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	41	36	SHAKE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
17	4	YOU AND ME	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	42	37	I LOVE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
18	27	UNWRITTEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	43	38	LIKE YOU	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
19	20	IT HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	44	39	SHAKE THAT	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
20	13	WAKE ME UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	45	40	BEEP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
21	6	GRILLZ	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	46	41	GIRL NEXT DOOR	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
22	29	WALK AWAY	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	47	42	JUST THE GIRL	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
23	22	HUNG UP	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	48	43	DO NOT LIE	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
24	15	BELLY DANCE (BANANZA)	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	49	44	MAMAMITA	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)
25	8	WHO I AM HATES WHO I'VE BEEN	THE POKISTON BROS. (AMERICAN TOPGUNS)	50	45		

HITPREDICTOR

LAST WEEK			THIS WEEK		
Chart	Position	Weeks on Chart	Position	Weeks on Chart	Weeks on Chart
POP 100 AIRPLAY					
Dirty Little Secret	1	1	Dirty Little Secret	1	1
Whisk (feat. American Idol)	2	1	Whisk (feat. American Idol)	2	1
Donna Donna (feat. American Idol)	3	1	Donna Donna (feat. American Idol)	3	1
Unwritten	4	1	Unwritten	4	1
Everytime We Touch	5	1	Everytime We Touch	5	1
Who I Am Hates Who I've Been	6	1	Who I Am Hates Who I've Been	6	1
I Love Me, I Love You	7	1	I Love Me, I Love You	7	1
Girl Next Door	8	1	Girl Next Door	8	1
Just Feel Better	9	1	Just Feel Better	9	1
Count On Me	10	1	Count On Me	10	1
ADULT TOP 100					
Like Sugar	1	1	Like Sugar	1	1
The Sweetest Thing	2	1	The Sweetest Thing	2	1
Prinny Vines	3	1	Prinny Vines	3	1
Have A Nice Day	4	1	Have A Nice Day	4	1
Shine My Way	5	1	Shine My Way	5	1
How Do You Feel	6	1	How Do You Feel	6	1
Our Last Night	7	1	Our Last Night	7	1
Leading in London	8	1	Leading in London	8	1
I Think About You	9	1	I Think About You	9	1
My Heart	10	1	My Heart	10	1
POP 100					
My Heart	1	1	My Heart	1	1
Amor Amor	2	1	Amor Amor	2	1
MODERN ROCK					
Unwritten	1	1	Unwritten	1	1
The Great	2	1	The Great	2	1
Donna Donna	3	1	Donna Donna	3	1
Unwritten	4	1	Unwritten	4	1
Everytime We Touch	5	1	Everytime We Touch	5	1
Who I Am Hates Who I've Been	6	1	Who I Am Hates Who I've Been	6	1
Unwritten	7	1	Unwritten	7	1

Billboard R&B/HIP-HOP

JAN
7
2006

TOP R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS

WEEK	ARTIST	ARTIST & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTION LABEL (PRICE)	Title	WEEKS ON CHART
73	1	1 GREATEST MARY J. BLIGE JIVE (12.95) / COLUMBIA (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Breakthrough	1
81	2	2 PIZZE JAMIE FOXX JIVE (12.95) / COLUMBIA (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Unpredictable	2
82	3	3 THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G. RCA (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Duets: The Final Chapter	3
9	4	4 EMINEM JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Curtain Call: The Hits	4
10	5	5 CHRIS BROWN JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Chris Brown	5
11	6	6 MARINA CAREY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Emancipation of Mimi	6
12	7	7 LIL' WAYNE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Carter II	7
13	8	8 LUDACRIS AND DTP JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Ludacris Presents...Disrupting The Peace	8
14	9	9 ANTHONY HAMILTON JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	AIN't Nobody Worryin'	9
15	10	10 THE BLACK EYED PEAS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Monkey Business	10
16	11	11 ROCKY HORROR JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	11
17	12	12 DESTINY'S CHILD JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	#1's	12
18	13	13 JULIE SANTANA JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	What The Game's Been Missing!	13
19	14	14 KANYE WEST JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Late Registration	14
20	15	15 KEYSHIA COLE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Way It Is	15
21	16	16 ALICIA KEYS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Unplugged	16
22	17	17 THE PUSHCAT DOLLS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	PCD	17
23	18	18 YOUNG JELLYROLL JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Let's Get It: Thug Motivation 101	18
24	19	19 HELLY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Sweetest	19
25	20	20 CHAMILLIONAIRE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Sound of Revenge	20
26	21	21 KIRK FRANKLIN JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Hero	21
27	22	22 DAL JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Down For Life	22
28	23	23 BOW WOW JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Wantin'	23
29	24	24 FLOETRY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Phi Dogy	24
30	25	25 T-PAIN JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Rappa Ternt Sanga	25
31	26	26 YOUNG BLOODZ JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Everybody Know Me	26
32	27	27 RAY J JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Reydlion	27
33	28	28 BUM-B JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Thill	28
34	29	29 EYFYE WONGER JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	A Time To Love	29
35	30	30 TRINITY MONZIE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	I Gotta Make It	30
36	31	31 THREE 6 MAFIA JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Most Known Unknown	31
37	32	32 SEAN PAUL JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Trinity	32
38	33	33 TONI BRAXTON JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Libre	33
39	34	34 PAUL WALL JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Peoples Champ	34
40	35	35 PURPLE RIBBON ALL-STARZ JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Big Bol Presents...Got Purp? Vol. II	35
41	36	36 ASHANTI JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Collectables By Ashanti	36
42	37	37 CHARLIE WILSON JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Charlie, Last Name Wilson	37
43	38	38 GINUWINE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Back II Da Basics	38
44	39	39 TRINA JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Glimmer Life	39
45	40	40 LYFE JENNINGS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Lyfe 269-192	40
46	41	41 YOLANDA ADAMS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Day By Day	41
47	42	42 PRETTY RICKY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Bluevaters	42
48	43	43 CIARA JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Goodies	43
49	44	44 PITBULL JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Money Is Still A Major Theme	44
50	45	45 KEM JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Album II	45
51	46	46 RIHANNA JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Music Of The Sun	46
52	47	47 DAMIAN "JR. GONG" MARLEY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Welcome To Jamrock	47
53	48	48 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	So Amazing: An All-Star Tribute To Luther Vandross	48
54	49	49 TWISTA JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Day After	49
55	50	50 SO CENT JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Massacre	50
56	51	51 GROUNDTRACK JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Gospel	51
57	52	52 ANITA BAKER JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Christmas Fantasy	52
58	53	53 USHER JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Confessions	53
59	54	54 LIL' KIM JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Now 19	54
60	55	55 LIL' KIM JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Naked Truth	55

WEEK	ARTIST	ARTIST & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTION LABEL (PRICE)	Title	WEEKS ON CHART
60	56	56 JOHN LEGEND JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Get Lifted	56
61	57	57 R. KELLY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Remix City Volume 1	57
62	58	58 MIKE JONES JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Who Is Mike Jones?	58
63	59	59 R. KELLY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	TP3 Reloaded	59
64	60	60 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Hidden Beat Recordings Presents: Unraptured Vol. 4	60
65	61	61 LEARN, WINNA & FINE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Humination	61
66	62	62 MARY MARY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Mary Mary	62
67	63	63 BO JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	BS	63
68	64	64 ERIC BENET JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Hurricane	64
69	65	65 OWELE JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Some Kinda...	65
70	66	66 CICCO WINANS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Purified	66
71	67	67 COMMAH JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Be	67
72	68	68 MARQUEE HOUSTON JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Naked	68
73	69	69 YING YANG TWINS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	U.S.A.: United State Of Atlanta	69
74	70	70 BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Greatest Hits	70
75	71	71 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Furthest From The Sun Tour	71
76	72	72 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Bigg Snoop Dogs Presents: Welcome To The Church-De Album	72
77	73	73 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Crunk Hits	73
78	74	74 KENNY G JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	The Greatest Holiday Classics	74
79	75	75 BEASTIE BOYS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Solid Gold Hits	75

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF THE HOT R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS, CHECK OUT WWW.BILLBOARD.COM

TOP REGGAE ALBUMS

WEEK	ARTIST	ARTIST & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTION LABEL (PRICE)	Title	WEEKS ON CHART
1	2	1 SEAN PAUL JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Live At Subbs	1
3	3	3 DAMIAN "JR. GONG" MARLEY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Welcome To Jamrock	3
4	4	4 BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Africa Unite: The Singles Collection	4
5	5	5 BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Gold	5
6	6	6 GROUNDTRACK JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	50 First Dates	6
7	7	7 WILLIE NELSON JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Countrypartner	7
8	8	8 SINEAD O'CONNOR JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Throw Down Your Arms	8
9	9	9 T.O.K. JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Unknown Language	9
10	10	10 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Reggae Gold 2005	10
11	11	11 SHAGGY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Clothes Drop	11
12	12	12 BOB MARLEY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	20 Best Of Bob Marley	12
13	13	13 BOB MARLEY JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Bob Marley Collection	13
14	14	14 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Strictly The Best 33	14
15	15	15 VARIOUS ARTISTS JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95) / JIVE (12.95)	Strictly The Best 34	15

BETWEEN THE REGGAE... www.billboard.com

A LARGE START FOR B.I.G.

With street-dance was causing early bows for Mary J. Blige and Jamie Foxx. Hot Shot Dub honors for Christmas week on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart fall to the Notorious B.I.G. With 438,000 copies, "Duets: The Final Chapter" enters that chart and The Billboard 200 at No. 3.

The posthumous album contains an all-star roster that includes Jay-Z, Nelly, Snoop Dogg and Eminem. Lead single "Nasty Girl"—featuring Dilated, Jagged Edge and Avery Storm—jumps 33-29 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs with more than 14 million audience impressions.

The Notorious B.I.G.'s last release, "Born Again," launched with 485,000 copies in 1999, good for a No. 1 debut on The billboard 200.

—Raphaël George



HOT R&B/HIP-HOP AIRPLAY

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPACT / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEKS ON CHART	PEAK POSITION
1	2	1 BE WITHOUT YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	26	31
2	9	2 DON'T FORGET ABOUT US	SHANE GARY (JIVE/IMPACT)	27	25
3	16	3 GRILLZ	NEELY TAY (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	28	22
4	23	4 I THINK THEY LIKE ME	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	29	21
5	30	5 UNPREZENTABLE	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	30	20
6	6	6 ONE WISH	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	31	19
7	13	7 RUN IT	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	32	18
8	20	8 I SHOULD HAVE CHEATED	KRYPTONITE (JIVE/IMPACT)	33	17
9	27	9 KRYPTONITE (I'M ON IT)	KRYPTONITE (JIVE/IMPACT)	34	16
10	3	10 THERE IT GO (THE WHISTLE SONG)	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	35	15
11	10	11 UNPREZENTABLE	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	36	14
12	17	12 SO SICK	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	37	13
13	24	13 GIRL TONITE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	38	12
14	31	14 HERE WE GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	39	11
15	7	15 FIREMAN	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	40	10
16	14	16 GOTTA GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	41	9
17	21	17 HEAD BANGER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	42	8
18	28	18 STAY FLY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	43	7
19	4	19 CHECK ON IT	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	44	6
20	11	20 I'M SPRUNG	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	45	5
21	18	21 SOUL SURVIVOR	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	46	4
22	25	22 SHAKE IT OFF	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	47	3
23	1	23 LAFFY TAFY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	48	2
24	8	24 LOOKING FOR YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	49	1
25	15	25 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	50	0

HOT R&B/HIP HOP SINGLES SALES

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPACT / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEKS ON CHART	PEAK POSITION
1	2	1 BE WITHOUT YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	26	31
2	9	2 DON'T FORGET ABOUT US	SHANE GARY (JIVE/IMPACT)	27	25
3	16	3 GRILLZ	NEELY TAY (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	28	22
4	23	4 I THINK THEY LIKE ME	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	29	21
5	30	5 UNPREZENTABLE	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	30	20
6	6	6 ONE WISH	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	31	19
7	13	7 RUN IT	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	32	18
8	20	8 I SHOULD HAVE CHEATED	KRYPTONITE (JIVE/IMPACT)	33	17
9	27	9 KRYPTONITE (I'M ON IT)	KRYPTONITE (JIVE/IMPACT)	34	16
10	3	10 THERE IT GO (THE WHISTLE SONG)	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	35	15
11	10	11 UNPREZENTABLE	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	36	14
12	17	12 SO SICK	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	37	13
13	24	13 GIRL TONITE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	38	12
14	31	14 HERE WE GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	39	11
15	7	15 FIREMAN	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	40	10
16	14	16 GOTTA GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	41	9
17	21	17 HEAD BANGER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	42	8
18	28	18 STAY FLY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	43	7
19	4	19 CHECK ON IT	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	44	6
20	11	20 I'M SPRUNG	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	45	5
21	18	21 SOUL SURVIVOR	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	46	4
22	25	22 SHAKE IT OFF	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	47	3
23	1	23 LAFFY TAFY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	48	2
24	8	24 LOOKING FOR YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	49	1
25	15	25 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	50	0

RHYTHMIC AIRPLAY

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPACT / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEKS ON CHART	PEAK POSITION
1	2	1 BE WITHOUT YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	26	31
2	9	2 DON'T FORGET ABOUT US	SHANE GARY (JIVE/IMPACT)	27	25
3	16	3 GRILLZ	NEELY TAY (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	28	22
4	23	4 I THINK THEY LIKE ME	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	29	21
5	30	5 UNPREZENTABLE	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	30	20
6	6	6 ONE WISH	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	31	19
7	13	7 RUN IT	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	32	18
8	20	8 I SHOULD HAVE CHEATED	KRYPTONITE (JIVE/IMPACT)	33	17
9	27	9 KRYPTONITE (I'M ON IT)	KRYPTONITE (JIVE/IMPACT)	34	16
10	3	10 THERE IT GO (THE WHISTLE SONG)	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	35	15
11	10	11 UNPREZENTABLE	JAMIE FOXX (JIVE/IMPACT)	36	14
12	17	12 SO SICK	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	37	13
13	24	13 GIRL TONITE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	38	12
14	31	14 HERE WE GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	39	11
15	7	15 FIREMAN	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	40	10
16	14	16 GOTTA GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	41	9
17	21	17 HEAD BANGER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	42	8
18	28	18 STAY FLY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	43	7
19	4	19 CHECK ON IT	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	44	6
20	11	20 I'M SPRUNG	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	45	5
21	18	21 SOUL SURVIVOR	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	46	4
22	25	22 SHAKE IT OFF	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	47	3
23	1	23 LAFFY TAFY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	48	2
24	8	24 LOOKING FOR YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	49	1
25	15	25 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	50	0

ADULT R&B

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPACT / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEKS ON CHART	PEAK POSITION
1	2	1 UNBREAKABLE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	26	31
2	9	2 I WANNA BE LOVED	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	27	25
3	16	3 MAGIC	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	28	22
4	23	4 GOTTA GO GOTTA LEAVE (TIRED)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	29	21
5	30	5 BE WITHOUT YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	30	20
6	6	6 IN MY MIND	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	31	19
7	13	7 FIND YOUR WAY (BACK IN MY LIFE)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	32	18
8	20	8 GROWN & SEXY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	33	17
9	27	9 LOOKING FOR YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	34	16
10	3	10 CHARLIE LAST NAME: WILSON	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	35	15
11	10	11 WE BELONG TOGETHER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	36	14
12	17	12 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	37	13
13	24	13 I CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	38	12
14	31	14 SHAKE IT OFF	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	39	11
15	7	15 WHERE WOULD I BE (THE QUESTION)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	40	10
16	14	16 I THINK I LOVE U	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	41	9
17	21	17 CRAZY LOVE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	42	8
18	28	18 TO LET GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	43	7
19	4	19 CAN'T LET GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	44	6
20	11	20 YES I'M READY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	45	5
21	18	21 TRIPPIK (THAT'S THE WAY LOVE WORKS)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	46	4
22	25	22 I AM NOT MY HAIR	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	47	3
23	1	23 EVERYTIME I THINK ABOUT HER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	48	2
24	8	24 DON'T FORGET ABOUT US	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	49	1
25	15	25 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	50	0

HIT PREDICTOR

WEEK	DATE	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPACT / PROMOTION LABEL)	WEEKS ON CHART	PEAK POSITION
1	2	1 UNBREAKABLE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	26	31
2	9	2 I WANNA BE LOVED	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	27	25
3	16	3 MAGIC	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	28	22
4	23	4 GOTTA GO GOTTA LEAVE (TIRED)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	29	21
5	30	5 BE WITHOUT YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	30	20
6	6	6 IN MY MIND	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	31	19
7	13	7 FIND YOUR WAY (BACK IN MY LIFE)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	32	18
8	20	8 GROWN & SEXY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	33	17
9	27	9 LOOKING FOR YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	34	16
10	3	10 CHARLIE LAST NAME: WILSON	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	35	15
11	10	11 WE BELONG TOGETHER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	36	14
12	17	12 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	37	13
13	24	13 I CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	38	12
14	31	14 SHAKE IT OFF	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	39	11
15	7	15 WHERE WOULD I BE (THE QUESTION)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	40	10
16	14	16 I THINK I LOVE U	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	41	9
17	21	17 CRAZY LOVE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	42	8
18	28	18 TO LET GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	43	7
19	4	19 CAN'T LET GO	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	44	6
20	11	20 YES I'M READY	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	45	5
21	18	21 TRIPPIK (THAT'S THE WAY LOVE WORKS)	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	46	4
22	25	22 I AM NOT MY HAIR	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	47	3
23	1	23 EVERYTIME I THINK ABOUT HER	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	48	2
24	8	24 DON'T FORGET ABOUT US	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	49	1
25	15	25 MUST BE NICE	DAVID NINE (IMPACT/REPUBLIC)	50	0

JAN 7 2006 COUNTRY Billboard

TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

WEEK	LAST WEEK	PEAK	ARTIST	ALBUM	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	ALBUM	WEEKS ON CHART
1	1	1	GREATEST HITS CARRIE UNDERWOOD RCA (15.00)	Some Hearts	1	56	56	56
2	2	2	KENNY CHESNEY RCA (15.00)	The Road And The Radio	3	57	51	51
3	3	3	JOHNNY CASH RCA (15.00)	The Legend Of Johnny Cash	1	58	43	43
4	4	4	RASCAL FLATTS RCA (15.00)	Feels Like Today	1	59	42	42
5	5	5	FAITH HILL RCA (15.00)	Firetree	1	60	36	36
6	6	6	TRACE ADKINS Capitol (15.00)	Songs About Me	1	61	35	35
7	7	7	REBA MCENTIRE RCA (15.00)	Reba: #1's	3	62	34	34
8	8	8	KEITH URBAN RCA (15.00)	Be Here	1	63	33	33
9	9	9	MARTINA MCBRIDE RCA (15.00)	Timeless	1	64	32	32
10	10	10	BIG & RICH RCA (15.00)	Comin' To Your City	1	65	31	31
11	11	11	SUGARLOAF Mercury (15.00)	Twice The Speed Of Life	3	66	30	30
12	12	12	GRETCHEN WILSON RCA (15.00)	All Jacked Up	1	67	29	29
13	13	13	DIERKS BENTLEY Capitol (15.00)	Modern Day Drifter	1	68	28	28
14	14	14	SOUNDTRAX RCA (15.00)	Walk The Line	1	69	27	27
15	15	15	BROOKS & DUNN RCA (15.00)	Hitlist Deluxe	1	70	26	26
16	16	16	BILLY CURRINGTON Mercury (15.00)	Don't Somethin' Right	2	71	25	25
17	17	17	BRAD PASKLEY RCA (15.00)	Time Well Wasted	1	72	24	24
18	18	18	TOBY KEITH Mercury (15.00)	Honky-Tonk University	1	73	23	23
19	19	19	GRETCHEN WILSON RCA (15.00)	Here For The Party	1	74	22	22
20	20	20	SARA EVANS RCA (15.00)	Real Fine Place	1	75	21	21
21	21	21	TOBY KEITH Mercury (15.00)	Greatest Hits 2	2	76	20	20
22	22	22	MIRANDA LAMBERT RCA (15.00)	Kerosene	1	77	19	19
23	23	23	JOE NICHOLS Mercury (15.00)	Something To Be Proud Of: The Best Of 1999-2005	1	78	18	18
24	24	24	THE MONTGOMERY GENTRY RCA (15.00)	Something To Be Proud Of: The Best Of 1999-2005	1	79	17	17
25	25	25	LITTLE BIG TOWN Capitol (15.00)	The Road To Here	1	80	16	16
26	26	26	GARY ALLAN Mercury (15.00)	Through All Over	1	81	15	15
27	27	27	BIG & RICH RCA (15.00)	Horse Of A Different Color	1	82	14	14
28	28	28	TIM MCGRAW RCA (15.00)	Live Like You Were Dying	1	83	13	13
29	29	29	GEORGE STRAIT Mercury (15.00)	Somewhere Down In Texas	1	84	12	12
30	30	30	TRISHA YEARWOOD Mercury (15.00)	Jasper County	1	85	11	11
31	31	31	SHANIA TWAIN Mercury (15.00)	Greatest Hits	1	86	10	10
32	32	32	CHRIS CAGLE Capitol (15.00)	Anywhere But Here	1	87	9	9
33	33	33	JASON ALDEAN RCA (15.00)	Jason Aldean	1	88	8	8
34	34	34	GEORGE STRAIT Mercury (15.00)	50 Number Ones	1	89	7	7
35	35	35	LARRY THE CABLE GUY Mercury (15.00)	When The Show Goes Down	1	90	6	6
36	36	36	TERMI CLARK Mercury (15.00)	The Right To Bare Arms	1	91	5	5
37	37	37	MONTGOMERY GENTRY RCA (15.00)	Life Goes On	1	92	4	4
38	38	38	JOHNNY CASH RCA (15.00)	You Do Your Thing	1	93	3	3
39	39	39	LEANN RIMES RCA (15.00)	The Legend	1	94	2	2
40	40	40	JOHN GRACIN RCA (15.00)	This Woman	1	95	1	1
41	41	41	CRASH NORRMAN Mercury (15.00)	My Kind Of Livin'	1	96	1	1
42	42	42	RANDY TRAVIS Mercury (15.00)	Glory Train: Songs Of Faith, Worship And Praise	1	97	1	1
43	43	43	BLAKE SHELTON Mercury (15.00)	Blake Shelton's Barn & Grill	1	98	1	1
44	44	44	LEE ANN WOMACK Mercury (15.00)	There's More Where That Came From	1	99	1	1
45	45	45	DOLLY PARTON Mercury (15.00)	Those Were The Days	1	100	1	1
46	46	46	KEITH ANDERSON Mercury (15.00)	Three Chord Country And American Rock & Roll	1	101	1	1
47	47	47	ALISON KRAUSS & UNION STATION Mercury (15.00)	Lonely Runs Both Ways	1	102	1	1
48	48	48	YAN ZANT Mercury (15.00)	Get Right With The Man	1	103	1	1
49	49	49	TRACY LAWRENCE Mercury (15.00)	Then & Now: The Hits Collection	1	104	1	1
50	50	50	YARIOUS ARTISTS Mercury (15.00)	Totally Country Vol. 4	1	105	1	1
51	51	51	JOHNNY CASH Mercury (15.00)	The Complete Sun Recordings 1955-1958	1	106	1	1
52	52	52	NEAL MCCOY Mercury (15.00)	This Life	1	107	1	1
53	53	53	KEVIN JONES Mercury (15.00)	Hits I Missed... And One I Didn't	1	108	1	1
54	54	54	KENNY CHESNEY Mercury (15.00)	Be As You Are: Songs From An Old Blue Chair	1	109	1	1

WEEK	LAST WEEK	PEAK	ARTIST	ALBUM	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	ALBUM	WEEKS ON CHART
1	1	1	ELVIS PRESLEY Mercury (15.00)	Elvis: Ultimate Gospel	1	56	56	56
2	2	2	LONGSTARR Mercury (15.00)	Coming Home	1	57	51	51
3	3	3	CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEED Mercury (15.00)	Garage	1	58	43	43
4	4	4	WYNONNA Mercury (15.00)	Her Story: Scenes From A Lifetime	1	59	42	42
5	5	5	JO DEE MESINA Mercury (15.00)	Delicious Surprise	1	60	36	36
6	6	6	BROOKS & DUNN Mercury (15.00)	The Greatest Hits Collection	1	61	35	35
7	7	7	ALABAMA Mercury (15.00)	Essential Alabama	1	62	34	34
8	8	8	RAY SCOTT Mercury (15.00)	My Kind Of Music	1	63	33	33
9	9	9	COWBOY TROY Mercury (15.00)	Love Motive	1	64	32	32
10	10	10	SHOOTER JENNINGS Mercury (15.00)	Put The O Back In Country	1	65	31	31
11	11	11	WAYLON JENNINGS Mercury (15.00)	16 Biggest Hits	1	66	30	30
12	12	12	WILLIE NELSON Mercury (15.00)	Songs	1	67	29	29
13	13	13	RODNEY CARRINGTON Mercury (15.00)	Greatest Hits	1	68	28	28
14	14	14	RANDY TRAVIS Mercury (15.00)	The Very Best Of Randy Travis	1	69	27	27
15	15	15	DWIGHT YOAKAM Mercury (15.00)	The Very Best Of Dwight Yoakam	1	70	26	26
16	16	16	JAMIE O'NEAL Mercury (15.00)	Brave	1	71	25	25
17	17	17	CHRIS LEOUX Mercury (15.00)	Country's Got Heart	1	72	24	24
18	18	18	TERRI CLARK Mercury (15.00)	Anthology, Volume 1	1	73	23	23
19	19	19	ALAN JACKSON Mercury (15.00)	Greatest Hits 1984-2004	1	74	22	22

TOP BLUEGRASS ALBUMS

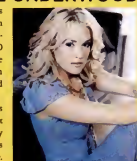
WEEK	LAST WEEK	PEAK	ARTIST	ALBUM	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	ALBUM	WEEKS ON CHART
1	1	1	NICKEL CREEK Mercury (15.00)	Why Should The Fire Die?	1	56	56	56
2	2	2	ALISON KRAUSS & UNION STATION Mercury (15.00)	Lonely Runs Both Ways	1	57	51	51
3	3	3	YARIOUS ARTISTS Mercury (15.00)	A Shaggy Family Christmas, Volume One	1	58	43	43
4	4	4	OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW Mercury (15.00)	O.C.M.S.	1	59	42	42
5	5	5	YARIOUS ARTISTS Mercury (15.00)	Green Day Blue Grass: Pickin' On Green Day: A Bluegrass Tribute	1	60	36	36
6	6	6	JERRY DOUGLAS Mercury (15.00)	The Best Kept Secret	1	61	35	35
7	7	7	THE DEL MCCOY BAND Mercury (15.00)	The Company We Keep	1	62	34	34
8	8	8	STEVE IVEY Mercury (15.00)	20 Best Of Bluegrass Gospel	1	63	33	33
9	9	9	RYAN ADAMS & KENTUCKY THUNDER Mercury (15.00)	Brand New Strings	1	64	32	32
10	10	10	STEVE IVEY Mercury (15.00)	Bluegrass Revival	1	65	31	31
11	11	11	RHONDA VINCENT AND THE RAGE Mercury (15.00)	Regin' Love	1	66	30	30
12	12	12	YARIOUS ARTISTS Mercury (15.00)	Bluegrass Hits: Twenty Timeless Favorites From Today And Yesterday	1	67	29	29
13	13	13	THE OAK RIDGE BOYS QUARTET & STEVE IVEY Mercury (15.00)	The Oak Ridge Boys Quartet & Bluegrass Favorites	1	68	28	28
14	14	14	RALPH STANLEY Mercury (15.00)	Shine On	1	69	27	27
15	15	15	STEVE IVEY Mercury (15.00)	Bluegrass Gospel	1	70	26	26

BETWEEN THE BULLET: wieson-whiteband.com

THEY LOVE UNDERWOOD'S 'HEARTS'

With her biggest sales week to date, "American Idol" queen Carrie Underwood moves 401,000 copies and swipes the Greatest Gainer trophy on Top Country Albums and The Billboard 200.

Her "Some Hearts" has sold 1.5 million to date in six weeks, more than any "Idol"-related album has sold in the same time frame.



Up 271,000 units, "Some Hearts" retains its No. 1 crown on the country list, but is pushed 2-5 on the big chart by the bow of three new titles. It started with 315,000 in the Dec. 3 issue. Pacesetter honors are doled out to Montgomery Gentry's "Something to Be Proud Of: The Best of 1999-2005," which jumps 69% (No. 24). —Wade Jensen

JAN 7 2006 **LATIN** **Billboard**
**HOT
LATIN SONGS**...[illegible]

100.00



next to that of
father Vicente



SEEN



INDY
UGO (8 88 CO-INDY) 4



ANTES Teoria Da Coloca
NORTE 85437 (D 54)



100

WEEK	DATE	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST	WEEKS ON CHART
				PRINCESA MONUMENTAL	IMPACT, PRINCESA LOPE	41
26	25 18			COSAS DEL AMOR COSTA DEL SOLAR	Sergio Vega	307-195 8071
27	22			RAILANDO [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Yoga & Mackie Featuring The Big La La's [UNRECORDED]	307-195 8071
28	27 24			PARA TU AMOR [CAPTAIN JACK'S LUNAR]	SUNNY AMARAL	307-195 8071
29	31 29			NOVIEMBRE SIN TI [A VOICE OF LOVE & VANDER A VAGUE]	Robi Robak	307-195 8071
30	34			CONTRA VIENTO Y MAREA [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Italo	307-195 8071
31	34 30			LAGRIMILLAS TONTAS [LA TONTA & LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Grupo Montec de Durango	307-195 8071
32	34 30			UN PRECADO DE NAVIDAD [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Wot A Vot	307-195 8071
33	34 30			QUE ME VAS A DAR [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Janni Rivers	307-195 8071
34	34 30			SE TE OLVIDO [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Pablo Montero	307-195 8071
35	34 30			GIGA [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Los Moscoscos de Durango	307-195 8071
36	34 30			DIRECTO AL CORAZON [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Los Tigres del Norte	307-195 8071
37	34 30			MISTERIOS DEL AMOR [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Luís Miguel	307-195 8071
38	27 27			BANDOLEROS [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Los Bandoleros Don Omar & Zito Calderon	307-195 8071
39	40 40			FRUTA PROHIBIDA [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Los Engendros	307-195 8071
40	40 40			DONCELLA [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Zion & Lennox	307-195 8071
41	36 -			LOCO POR TI [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Victor Garzon	307-195 8071
42	36 -			CHULIN CULIN CHUNFLY [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Vulbo Featuring Celia 15	307-195 8071
43	44			QUE VAY A HACER CON MI AMOR [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Alejandro Fernandez	307-195 8071
44	47 37			DARIA [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	SA 15 Estacion	307-195 8071
45	47 37			NO LE TEMAS A EL [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Tresby City	307-195 8071
46	42			LA CAZADORA [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Solo Star [UNRECORDED, LATINO]	307-195 8071
47	42			COMO SI NO NOS HUBIERAMOS AMADO [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Trio 13 Bambores	307-195 8071
48	50 -			NO TE APARTES DE MI [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Platinum Soul [UNRECORDED]	307-195 8071
49	50 -			MIL AMORES [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Laurea Patricia	307-195 8071
50	50 -			TU NO ESTAS [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Yaher	307-195 8071
51	50 -			MIL AMORES [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Master Joe & G. G. Black	307-195 8071
52	50 -			TU NO ESTAS [RECORDED BY LA MONTANA & PARRINO]	Rakim & Ken	307-195 8071



No. 1 and Top Latin Albums at No. 35



on Latin
Pop Airplay.



Still on the
Hollywood
Walk of Fame



13



ALFREDO JIMENEZ



RIVERA Parranda
11-11-1981



WARNER LITINA BROTHERS
& FIDO
BOSTON 0-812 (75 CTS.)

 **TOP
LATIN ALBUMS**

LATIN ALBUMS																					
Rank	Artist	Title	Label	Genre	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Rank	Artist	Title	Label	Genre	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Rank	Artist	Title	Label	Genre	Weeks on Chart	Peak	
1	DADDY YANKIE	Barrio Fino (Latin Grammy Award for Best Latin Pop Album)	World Circuit/Nonesuch	Latin Pop	1	1	26	CALLE 13	Calle 13	World Circuit	Latin Rap	1	1	1	LOS TEMERARIOS	Suena De Amor	World Circuit	Latin Rap	1	1	
2	DON CHATO	De Himnos Presuntos Reggaeton Latino	World Circuit	Latin Rap	2	2	27	IVY QUEEN	Flashback	World Circuit	Latin Rap	2	2	2	LAURA PAULINA	Escucha Amor	World Circuit	Latin Rap	3	3	
3	CHARRI	Placerón Otro Vol.	World Circuit	Latin Rap	3	3	28	CHAYANNE	En Vivo	World Circuit	Latin Rap	4	4	3	BEBE	Pahara Tatarahs	World Circuit	Latin Rap	5	5	
4	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Gold Star Music: Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	5	5	29	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Agarron Durangueses 2000	World Circuit	Latin Rap	6	6	4	ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ	A Corazon Abierto	World Circuit	Latin Rap	7	7	
5	JUANES	Me Sencero	World Circuit	Latin Rap	8	8	30	A. QUINTANILLA II	PRESENTS KUMBA KING	Fuego	World Circuit	Latin Rap	8	8	5	MARC ANTHONY	Valia La Pena	World Circuit	Latin Rap	10	10
6	WISIN & YANDEL	Piel Molido	World Circuit	Latin Rap	11	11	31	GILBERTO SANTA ROSA EL GRAN COMBO	Al No Suena Niente	World Circuit	Latin Rap	11	11	6	CHRISTIAN CASTRO	Dias Felices	World Circuit	Latin Rap	13	13	
7	RICARDO ARJONA	Adentro	World Circuit	Latin Rap	14	14	32	VOZ A VOZ	En Presencia Del Futuro	World Circuit	Latin Rap	12	12	7	LOS TEMERARIOS	La Mejor... Coleccion	World Circuit	Latin Rap	16	16	
8	LUIS MIGUEL	Grandes Exitos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	17	17	33	AVENTURA	God's Project	World Circuit	Latin Rap	13	13	8	JOSE ALFREDO JIMENEZ	Tesoros Musicales	World Circuit	Latin Rap	19	19	
9	DADDY YANKIE	Barrio Fino	World Circuit	Latin Rap	20	20	34	JOSE ALFREDO JIMENEZ	La Historia Del Rey	World Circuit	Latin Rap	22	22	9	LA S ESTACION	Flora De Acapulco	World Circuit	Latin Rap	22	22	
10	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Buchos Family 2: Desde La Prison	World Circuit	Latin Rap	23	23	35	ANDY ANDY	Ironie	World Circuit	Latin Rap	24	24	10	IVY QUEEN	The Best Of Ivy Queen	World Circuit	Latin Rap	25	25	
11	SIN BANDERA	Memoria	World Circuit	Latin Rap	26	26	36	MARKO ANTONIO SOLIS	La Historia Continua... En Vivo	World Circuit	Latin Rap	25	25	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Minuteros Vol. 1	World Circuit	Latin Rap	28	28	
12	ANA GABRIEL	Historia De Una Senalita	World Circuit	Latin Rap	28	28	37	LOS TORRES DEL NORTE	Cumbias Y Algo Mas...	World Circuit	Latin Rap	26	26	12	GRUPO BRINCO	La Mejor... Coleccion	World Circuit	Latin Rap	30	30	
13	LOS HORDOSCOS DE DURANGO	Amor Muerto Que Resucita	World Circuit	Latin Rap	31	31	38	VICENTE FERNANDEZ	Tesoros De Coleccion	World Circuit	Latin Rap	27	27	13	TURIDIL	La Voz De Un Angel	World Circuit	Latin Rap	33	33	
14	VICENTE FERNANDEZ	Mis Dos Mujeres	World Circuit	Latin Rap	34	34	39	REIK	Reik	World Circuit	Latin Rap	28	28	14	LUIS FONSI	Paso A Paso	World Circuit	Latin Rap	36	36	
15	RAY JONES & BABY MINTA	Mas Flow 2	World Circuit	Latin Rap	37	37	40	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Top Latino	World Circuit	Latin Rap	29	29	15	ANGEL & KHRIZ	Love MyV's	World Circuit	Latin Rap	39	39	
16	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	40	40	41	JENNI VIRENA	Rabaloza, Rabaloza Y Alegría	World Circuit	Latin Rap	30	30	16	MARKO ANTONIO SOLIS	2 En 1	World Circuit	Latin Rap	42	42	
17	ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ	A Corazon Abierto	World Circuit	Latin Rap	43	43	42	REYLI	En La Luna	World Circuit	Latin Rap	31	31	17	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Chozen Flow: El Documental	World Circuit	Latin Rap	45	45	
18	ANA GABRIEL	Historia De Una Senalita	World Circuit	Latin Rap	46	46	43	INTOCABLE	Intocable	World Circuit	Latin Rap	32	32	18	LOS TORRES DEL NORTE	Los Mas Pedidos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	48	48	
19	LUIS MIGUEL	Grandes Exitos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	49	49	44	JAVIER SOLIS	Tesoros De Coleccion	World Circuit	Latin Rap	33	33	19	CHRISTIAN CASTRO	Nunca Voy A Olvidarte... Los Exitos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	51	51	
20	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	52	52	45	MARKO ANTONIO SOLIS & PEPE AGUIAR	Desa Noche	World Circuit	Latin Rap	34	34	20	CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA	2 En 1	World Circuit	Latin Rap	53	53	
21	LUIS MIGUEL	Grandes Exitos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	55	55	46	LUIS FONSI	Paso A Paso	World Circuit	Latin Rap	35	35	21	JOAN LUIS GUERRA	Para Ti	World Circuit	Latin Rap	54	54	
22	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	58	58	47	RICARDO ARJONA	Adentro	World Circuit	Latin Rap	36	36	22	RUPI ORCINO ROSA	Al Natural: Live	World Circuit	Latin Rap	57	57	
23	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	61	61	48	LUIS MIGUEL	Grandes Exitos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	37	37	23	LUIS MIGUEL	Grandes Exitos	World Circuit	Latin Rap	60	60	
24	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	64	64	49	CHAYANNE	En Vivo	World Circuit	Latin Rap	38	38	24	CHAYANNE	Desdis Siempre	World Circuit	Latin Rap	63	63	
25	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Reggaeton Hits	World Circuit	Latin Rap	67	67	50	CONJUNTO ATRECEDE	Desde La Suena De Durango	World Circuit	Latin Rap	39	39	25	CONJUNTO ATRECEDE	Desde La Suena De Durango	World Circuit	Latin Rap	66	66	

JAN
7
2006

HITS OF THE WORLD Billboard

JAPAN			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	NEWS	SNOWY SNOWY SNOW! (LTD EDITION) SNOWY SNOWY'S EX-RENTMENT	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	KONAYUKI	KONAYUKI VICTA	
3	TADA...ATKATKE (CD+DVD)		
4	SEISHUN AMIGO	SEISHUN AMIGO	
5	TADA...ATKATKE	TADA...ATKATKE	
6	THE 4TH SQUAD	THE 4TH SQUAD	
7	NEWS	SNOWY SNOWY SNOW! (LTD EDITION) SNOWY SNOWY'S EX-RENTMENT	
8	KARMA SUPERNOVA (LTD EDITION)	SONG OF CHERRY TV FACTORY	
9	ONLY HUMAN	ONLY HUMAN	
10	YOU	YOU	

FRANCE			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	MON PLUS BEAU NOEL	MON PLUS BEAU NOEL	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	LA CAMERA NEGRA	JAMIE LOPEZ	
3	BARTIANO	BARTIANO	
4	AMER JUSOUA L'IMPOSSIBLE	AMER JUSOUA L'IMPOSSIBLE	
5	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	
6	NOEL...OUE DU BONHEUR	NOEL...OUE DU BONHEUR	
7	GHOST BELLS	GHOST BELLS	
8	RELIGION DANS SON REGARD	RELIGION DANS SON REGARD	
9	HISTOIRES DE LUV	HISTOIRES DE LUV	
10	LA RICICLETTE	LA RICICLETTE	

ITALY			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	DECEMBER 26, 2005
2	BIG CITY LIFE	BIG CITY LIFE	
3	CE LA FANTO	CE LA FANTO	
4	ADVERTISING SPACE	ADVERTISING SPACE	
5	A PAIN THAT I'M USED TO	A PAIN THAT I'M USED TO	
6	SWAN	SWAN	
7	TURN YOUR CAR AROUND	TURN YOUR CAR AROUND	
8	ABOUT US	ABOUT US	
9	WAKE UP	WAKE UP	
10	TRIPPING	TRIPPING	

NORWAY			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	LIFT ME	LIFT ME	DECEMBER 26, 2005
2	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	
3	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	
4	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	
5	TOMKANG	TOMKANG	

ALBUMS			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	MADRIDAGA	MADRIDAGA	
2	KATIE MELUA	KATIE MELUA	
3	BYE ERIC	BYE ERIC	
4	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	

UNITED KINGDOM			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	NEWS	SNOWY SNOWY SNOW! (LTD EDITION) SNOWY SNOWY'S EX-RENTMENT	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	JCB SONG	JCB SONG	
3	FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK	FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK	
4	WHEN YOU TELL ME THAT YOU LOVE ME	WHEN YOU TELL ME THAT YOU LOVE ME	
5	WHEN I'M GONE	WHEN I'M GONE	
6	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	
7	STICKWITT	STICKWITT	
8	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	
9	THE SEED	THE SEED	
10	TALK	TALK	

AUSTRALIA			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	WASABI	WASABI	DECEMBER 26, 2005
2	MY HUMPS	MY HUMPS	
3	WAVE TONIGHT	WAVE TONIGHT	
4	STAYWITT	STAYWITT	
5	PUSH THE BUTTON	PUSH THE BUTTON	
6	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	
7	STICKWITT	STICKWITT	
8	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	
9	THE SEED	THE SEED	
10	EVERYTHING I'M NOT	EVERYTHING I'M NOT	

SPAIN			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	DECEMBER 26, 2005
2	CE LA FANTO	CE LA FANTO	
3	ADVERTISING SPACE	ADVERTISING SPACE	
4	A PAIN THAT I'M USED TO	A PAIN THAT I'M USED TO	
5	WHO DO YOU LOVE?	WHO DO YOU LOVE?	
6	POPCORN	POPCORN	
7	TALK	TALK	
8	PRECIOUS	PRECIOUS	
9	TRIPPING	TRIPPING	

DENMARK			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	ARNDH	ARNDH	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	MR. NICE GUY	MR. NICE GUY	
3	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	JINGLE BELLS LAST CHRISTMAS	
4	VERDENSTORSTORNEKOR	VERDENSTORSTORNEKOR	

ALBUMS			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	TY-2	TY-2	
2	BAMSE	BAMSE	
3	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	
4	JOHN LENNON	JOHN LENNON	

GERMANY			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	DIESER WEG	DIESER WEG	
3	FIRST DAY OF MY LIFE	FIRST DAY OF MY LIFE	
4	CHRISTMAS IN MY HEART	CHRISTMAS IN MY HEART	
5	BIG CITY LIFE	BIG CITY LIFE	
6	PUSH THE BUTTON	PUSH THE BUTTON	
7	YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	
8	SCHREI	SCHREI	
9	MY HUMPS	MY HUMPS	
10	LAST CHRISTMAS	LAST CHRISTMAS	

CANADA			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	JANUARY 7, 2006
2	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	
3	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
4	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
5	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
6	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
7	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
8	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
9	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	
10	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	DO YOU KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?	

THE NETHERLANDS			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	TALK	TALK	DECEMBER 26, 2005
2	WAT IK WIL MET KERSTMAS...BEN JIJ	WAT IK WIL MET KERSTMAS...BEN JIJ	
3	NINE MILLION BICYCLES	NINE MILLION BICYCLES	
4	STICKWITT	STICKWITT	
5	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	

ALBUMS			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	KATIE MELUA	KATIE MELUA	
2	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	
3	IL DIVO	IL DIVO	
4	LUCIE SILVIA	LUCIE SILVIA	
5	ENYA	ENYA	

PORTUGAL			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	D'ZRY	D'ZRY	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	RUI VELOSO	RUI VELOSO	
3	CAETANO VELOSO	CAETANO VELOSO	
4	ENYA	ENYA	
5	DIANA KRALL	DIANA KRALL	
6	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	
7	TERESA SALGUEIRO	TERESA SALGUEIRO	
8	JAMES BLUNT	JAMES BLUNT	

EURO			
DIGITAL TRACKS			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	THAT'S MY GOAL	THAT'S MY GOAL	JANUARY 7, 2006
2	JCB	JCB	
3	HUNG UP (ALBUM VERSION)	HUNG UP (ALBUM VERSION)	
4	FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK	FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK	
5	I ALL WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU	I ALL WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU	
6	PUSH THE BUTTON	PUSH THE BUTTON	
7	MY HUMPS	MY HUMPS	
8	STICKWITT	STICKWITT	
9	WHEN I'M GONE	WHEN I'M GONE	
10	GOODYE MY LOVER	GOODYE MY LOVER	
11	YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	
12	BARK IT'S OLD OUTSIDE	BARK IT'S OLD OUTSIDE	
13	LAST CHRISTMAS	LAST CHRISTMAS	
14	ADVERTISING SPACE	ADVERTISING SPACE	
15	EVERYBODY LEAVE YOUR	EVERYBODY LEAVE YOUR	
16	I BET YOU LOOK GOOD ON THE DANCEFLOOR	I BET YOU LOOK GOOD ON THE DANCEFLOOR	
17	BECAUSE OF YOU	BECAUSE OF YOU	
18	DRIVING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS	DRIVING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS	
19	SAD DAY	SAD DAY	
20	BAD DAY	BAD DAY	

AUSTRIA			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	HUNG UP	HUNG UP	DECEMBER 26, 2005
2	BIG CITY LIFE	BIG CITY LIFE	
3	FIRST DAY OF MY LIFE	FIRST DAY OF MY LIFE	
4	SCHREI	SCHREI	
5	DIESER WEG	DIESER WEG	

ALBUMS			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	
2	KIDOT CONTACT KIDS	KIDOT CONTACT KIDS	
3	MAVER MATEO	MAVER MATEO	
4	MADONNA	MADONNA	
5	WOLFGANG AMEROS	WOLFGANG AMEROS	

GREECE			
SINGLES			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	MAMBO	MAMBO	DECEMBER 27, 2005
2	O MIKROS TIMPANISTIS	O MIKROS TIMPANISTIS	
3	TO KALITERO DIO	TO KALITERO DIO	
4	MOU AGOSTO YU TSARU	MOU AGOSTO YU TSARU	
5	EPAGES	EPAGES	

ALBUMS			
WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	WEEK
1	MADONNA	MADONNA	
2	EMINEM	EMINEM	
3	SHAKIRA	SHAKIRA	
4	MADELINE PEYKOV	MADELINE PEYKOV	
5	CARLES LOU POUDY RECORDS	CARLES LOU POUDY RECORDS	

EURO

EUROCHARTS

SINGLE SALES

WEEK	ALBUM	ARTIST	WEEKS ON CHART	PEAK POSITION	LAST WEEK
1	1	THE NATIONAL	1	1	1
2	2	THE NATIONAL	2	2	2
3	3	THE NATIONAL	3	3	3
4	4	THE NATIONAL	4	4	4
5	5	THE NATIONAL	5	5	5
6	6	THE NATIONAL	6	6	6
7	7	THE NATIONAL	7	7	7
8	8	THE NATIONAL	8	8	8
9	9	THE NATIONAL	9	9	9
10	10	THE NATIONAL	10	10	10
11	11	THE NATIONAL	11	11	11
12	12	THE NATIONAL	12	12	12
13	13	THE NATIONAL	13	13	13
14	14	THE NATIONAL	14	14	14
15	15	THE NATIONAL	15	15	15
16	16	THE NATIONAL	16	16	16
17	17	THE NATIONAL	17	17	17
18	18	THE NATIONAL	18	18	18
19	19	THE NATIONAL	19	19	19
20	20	THE NATIONAL	20	20	20
21	21	THE NATIONAL	21	21	21
22	22	THE NATIONAL	22	22	22
23	23	THE NATIONAL	23	23	23
24	24	THE NATIONAL	24	24	24
25	25	THE NATIONAL	25	25	25
26	26	THE NATIONAL	26	26	26
27	27	THE NATIONAL	27	27	27
28	28	THE NATIONAL	28	28	28
29	29	THE NATIONAL	29	29	29
30	30	THE NATIONAL	30	30	30
31	31	THE NATIONAL	31	31	31
32	32	THE NATIONAL	32	32	32
33	33	THE NATIONAL	33	33	33
34	34	THE NATIONAL	34	34	34
35	35	THE NATIONAL	35	35	35
36	36	THE NATIONAL	36	36	36
37	37	THE NATIONAL	37	37	37
38	38	THE NATIONAL	38	38	38
39	39	THE NATIONAL	39	39	39
40	40	THE NATIONAL	40	40	40
41	41	THE NATIONAL	41	41	41
42	42	THE NATIONAL	42	42	42
43	43	THE NATIONAL	43	43	43
44	44	THE NATIONAL	44	44	44
45	45	THE NATIONAL	45	45	45
46	46	THE NATIONAL	46	46	46
47	47	THE NATIONAL	47	47	47
48	48	THE NATIONAL	48	48	48
49	49	THE NATIONAL	49	49	49
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52	52	THE NATIONAL	52	52	52
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55	55	THE NATIONAL	55	55	55
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58	58	THE NATIONAL	58	58	58
59	59	THE NATIONAL	59	59	59
60	60	THE NATIONAL	60	60	60
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63	63	THE NATIONAL	63	63	63
64	64	THE NATIONAL	64	64	64
65	65	THE NATIONAL	65	65	65
66	66	THE NATIONAL	66	66	66
67	67	THE NATIONAL	67	67	67
68	68	THE NATIONAL	68	68	68
69	69	THE NATIONAL	69	69	69
70	70	THE NATIONAL	70	70	70
71	71	THE NATIONAL	71	71	71
72	72	THE NATIONAL	72	72	72
73	73	THE NATIONAL	73	73	73
74	74	THE NATIONAL	74	74	74

ALBUMS

TRK	DATE	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	INTERUPTED CARPENTERS
2	1	MADONNA	CONFESIONS ON A DANCE FLOOR WALTER BECK
3	1	JAMES BLUNT	BACK TO BEDLAM PT. 1 (RCA)
4	3	ENYA	IMAGINATIVE WALKER BECK
5	6	E MINEM	CUTTING CALL - THE NEW INTERUPTED
6	4	IL DIVO	BEING VERY ENYB
7	7	KATIE MELUA	PIECES BY MISS JUANCAICO
8	7	XAVIER NAIDOO	BLISSMANN PAUL & NAIDOO REEDERS
9	7	COLDPLAY	DAY 4: 14.07.04
10	9	WEST LIFE	FACE TO FACE - RECORDED
11	10	GREEN DAY	BULLET IN THE HEAD RECORDED
12	11	ANASTACIA	PIECES BY A BRASS RECORDED
13	13	JOHNNY HALLIDAY	RAVING MURDERERS
14	NEW	INDOCHINE	RAVING & JUNE 1 P.C.
15	23	TAKE THAT	RAVING PARTS - THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION RCA

RADIO AIRPLAY

TIME	PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION	DATE
7	THE	THE	1983
8	THE	THE	1983
9	THE	THE	1983
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[TOP](#)

ARTIST			
TITLE			
RECORD NUMBER			
DISTRIBUTION LABEL			
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959	960	961	962
963	964	965	966
967	968	969	970
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975	976	977	978
979	980	981	982
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995	996	997	998
999	1000	1001	1002

TOP

TIME	ARTIST	TITLE	PERIOD	COMPOSER	PERFORMER
1	13	ANDRE RIEU	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
2	13	ENNEE FLEMING	SACRED SONGS (1940-1950)	CLASSIC GROUP	
3	13	BRYN TERFEL, PAUL GROVES	SYMPHONY (WORDSWORTH)	CLASSIC GROUP	
4	13	CECILIA BARTOLI	SPERA PRIMA (1714-1805)	CLASSIC GROUP	
5	13	ANDRE RIEU	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
6	13	ANDRE RIEU	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
7	13	HILARY HAHN, NATALIE ZHU	SONATA NO. 1 (1805-1855)	CLASSIC GROUP	
8	13	JOSEPH BELL, BERLIN PHILHARMONIC (THOMAS)	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
9	13	JOSEPH BELL, BERLIN PHILHARMONIC (THOMAS)	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
10	13	JOSEPH BELL, BERLIN PHILHARMONIC (THOMAS)	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
11	13	JOSEPH BELL, BERLIN PHILHARMONIC (THOMAS)	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
12	13	JOSEPH BELL, BERLIN PHILHARMONIC (THOMAS)	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		
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56	13	JOSEPH BELL, BERLIN PHILHARMONIC (THOMAS)	THE FORTY DUTCHMAN (1667-1736)		

TOP

CONTEMPORARY JAZZ		
DATE	TIME	ARTIST
1	8:00	STYLIC IMPACT & NUMBER 1 DISTRIBUTING LABEL
2	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS THE JAZZ CLASSIC & BIRDING CONCERTS PLUS 30:00/30/30
3	10	KENNY G THE SMOKEY MOUNTAIN CLUBHOUSE ARTISTS 70:00/30/30
4	1	HERBIE HANCOCK PACIFICORPUS 10:00/30/30 70:00/30/30
5	11	JAMIE CULLUM CONCESSIONS 10:00/30/30 70:00/30/30
6	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS ROCK BACK RECORDINGS UNIMPAIRED 10:00/30/30
7	5	KENNY G AT LAST... THE BEST OF ALBERT EINSTEIN 60:00/30/30
8	12	KIRK WHALLUM HUMAN MUSIC PRESENTS THE BAYBROTHERS CONCERTS 01:00/30/30
9	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS WE SET A BOX OUT FOR YOU 10:00/30/30
10	11	RICK BARNES HUMAN MUSIC 10:00/30/30
11	8	JAMIE CULLUM HUMAN MUSIC PRESENTS THE BAYBROTHERS 01:00/30/30
12	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS THE BEST OF SMOKEY ALBIS CHRISTMAS 00:00/30/30 01:00/30/30
13	10	CHRISTIAN RANDEG CHRISTIAN RANDEG & JAZZ ALIVE 1:00:00/30/30
14	12	BURN CULBERTSON IT'S A WONDERFUL 12:00/30/30
15	14	LIZZY WRIGHT CONCRETE MUSIC MUSIC CONCRETE 00:00/30/30
16	18	NAJEE MY FAVORITE JAZZ 10:00/30/30
17	15	VARIOUS ARTISTS KIMPA JAZZ 00:00/30/30
18	15	KIMPA JAZZ KIMPA JAZZ 00:00/30/30
19	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS THE BEST OF SMOKEY ALBIS CHRISTMAS 00:00/30/30
20	13	ERUO GROOVE JAZZ FEST 00:00/30/30 70:00/30/30
21	13	NORMAN BROWN THE BEST OF NORMAN BROWN 00:00/30/30
22	14	THE RIPPINGTONS FEATURING RUSS FREEMAN 00:00/30/30
23	14	VARIOUS ARTISTS ROCK BACK RECORDINGS UNIMPAIRED 10:00/30/30
24	14	RICHARD ELLIOT MY FAVORITE JAZZ 10:00/30/30
25	13	RAMSEY LEWIS THE NEW JAZZ 00:00/30/30
26	14	PAT METHENY GROUP THE NEW JAZZ 00:00/30/30

TOP

[illegible]

CHARTS

JAN 7 2006 ALBUMS

SALES DATA COMPILED BY
NPD
NPD GROUP, INC.
www.npd.com

ALBUM CHARTS

Sales data compiled from a comprehensive pool of U.S. music merchants by Nielsen SoundScan. Sales data for R&B/hip-hop retail charts is compiled by Nielsen SoundScan from a national subset of core stores that specialize in those genres.

- Albums with the greatest sales gains this week

GREATEST GAIN Where included, this award indicates the title with the chart's largest unit increase

PRICE LEADER Where included, this award indicates the title with the chart's biggest percentage growth.

REMOVED Indicates album entered top 100 of The Billboard 200 and has been removed from Heatseekers chart.

PRICING CONFIGURATION
CD/Cassette prices are suggested list or equivalent

from wholesale prices. $\text{\textcircled{D}}$ after price indicates album only available on DualDisc. CD/DVD after price indicates CD/DVD combo only available. $\text{\textcircled{D}}$ DualDisc available. $\text{\textcircled{+}}$ CD/DVD combo available. * indicates vinyl LP is available. Pricing and vinyl LP availability are not included on all charts.

SINGLES CHARTS

RADIO AIRPLAY SINGLES CHARTS

Compiled from a national sample of data supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. Charts are ranked by number of gross audience impressions, computed by cross-referencing exact times of airplay with Arbitron listener data. The exceptions are the Rhythmic Top 40, Adult Top 40, Adult Contemporary, Modern Rock and Adult R&B charts, which are ranked by total detections.

● Songs showing an increase in audience (or detections)

RECURRENT RULES

If singer has received:
 • If they have been on the Hot 100 for more than 20 weeks and rank below 30, Songs are removed from the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks and Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Airplay charts simultaneously if they have been on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks for more than 20 weeks and rank below 30. Songs are removed from the Pop 100 and Pop 100 Airplay charts simultaneously if they have been on the Pop 100 for more than 30 weeks and rank below 30. Titles are removed from Hot Country Songs if they have been on the chart for more than 20 weeks and rank below 15 in detections or audience, provided that they are not still gaining enough audience points to buffer. Songs are removed from the Adult Top 40, Adult Contemporary, Adult R&B, and Hot Dance Airplay charts if they have been on the chart for more than 20 weeks and rank below 15 (20 for Modern Rock and Latin) or if they have been on the chart for more than 52 weeks and below 10.

SINGLES SALES CHARTS

Single with the greatest sales gains

② CD single available. ③ CD
④ Used Maxi-Single available

HITPREDICTOR

 Indicates data derived from research data provided by

Promoted using multiple letters and a nationwide sample of celebrity promoted music consumers. Songs are rated on a 1-5 scale; final results are based on weighted positives. Songs with a score of 85 or more (75 or more for country) are judged to have Hit Potential, although that benchmark number can fluctuate per format based on the strength of available music. For a complete and updated list of current songs with Hit Potential, commentary, polls and more, please visit <http://hitpredictor.com>.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife

AWARD CERT. LEVELS

ALBUM CHARTS

● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for 500,000 albums (Gold) ■ RIAA certification for net shipment

for 1 million units (Platinum units (Diamond) Numeral

multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. Certification for net shipments of 100,000 units (Gold). ** Certification of 200,000 units (Platinum). *** Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platinum).

● RIAA certification for 100.

200,000 paid downloads (Platinum). Numeral within platinum symbol indicates song multipatinum level. RIAA certification for net shipment of 500,000 singles (Gold).

- RIAA gold certification for net shipper
- RIAA gold certification for net shipper

longform videos ■ RIAA platinum certification for net shipment of 50,000 units for video singles ... RIAA platinum certification for sales of 100,000 units for shortform or longform videos.

● RIAA gold certification for net shipment of 50,000
suggested retail price ■ RIAA platinum certification

million in sales at suggested retail price. • IRMA gold certification for a minimum sale of 125,000 units or a dollar volume of \$9 million at retail for theatically released programs; or of at least 25,000 units and \$1 million at suggested retail for non-theatrical titles. • IRMA platinum certification for a minimum sale of 250,000 units or a dollar volume of \$18 million at retail for theatically released programs, and of at least 50,000 units and \$2 million at suggested retail for non-theatrical titles.

TOP HOLIDAY ALBUMS

[illegible]

**TOP
DIGITAL**

WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM/CONCERT/ LABEL	THE
1	THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.	Duets The Final Chapter	3
2	MARY J. BLIGE	The Breakthrough	4
3	JAMIE FOXX	Unpredictable	5
4	JOHN MALL	Unfolding the Clutterbawton Jazz Orchestra	6
5	JAMES BLUNT	Back to Bedlam	7
6	VINCE GUARALDI TRIO	A Charlie Brown Christmas	8
7	RYAN ADAMS	25	9
8	MICHAEL BUBLE	Let It Snow! (EP)	10
9	MADONNA	Consequences On A Dance Floor	11
10	EMINEM	Curtain Call: The Hits	12
11	CARRIE UNDERWOOD	Some Hearts	13
12	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA	The Last Christmas Live	14
13	SONGTRUCK	The Christmas From The Lane The Rock and the Notebook	15
14	MARILYN CAREY	My Christmas	16
15	FALL OUT BOY	From Under The Cork Tree	17

TOP
INTERNET

STAR	ARTIST	ALBUM	GENRE	Label	Title	Star
1	ENYA	Shepherd Moons	Classical	Warner Bros.	Amazons	13
2	BARB GILBERT	THE GIFT OF MUSIC: THE GILBERT AND SHERIFFA	Classical	Time Life		
3	THE WINDS OF CHANGE QUARTET WITH JOHN COULANE	4 Seasons	Classical	Decca		
4	MADONNA	Confessions On A Dance Floor	Dance			
5	BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN	Born To Run 20th Anniversary Edition	Rock			
6	CARRIE UNDERWOOD	Some Hearts	Country			
7	JOHNNY CASH	Cash's Cash: A Polson Project	Rock			
8	IL Divo	The Christmas Collection	Classical			
9	BO DICE	The Real Thing	Rock			
10	NEIL SHAMON	12 Songs	Classical			
11	KELLY CLARKSON	Breakaway	Pop			
12	SOUND! R&B	Rare	R&B			
13	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA	The Last Christmas Eve	Classical			
14	EMINEM	Curtain Call: The Hits	Rock			
15	PHISH	Use A Little Music: Garden Now's Here 1995	Rock			

HOT CHRISTIAN ADULT CONTEMPORARY SONGS

DATE	WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST (COMPANY / PRODUCTION LABEL)
1	1	#1 JOSEPH'S LULLABY	JOSEPH (COLUMBIA)
2	2	ALL I REALLY WANT FOR CHRISTMAS	ROSEMARY CROWNE (CAPRICORN)
3	3	GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN	STACY DOLAN (COLUMBIA)
4	4	ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD YOU ON HIGH	DAVID TAYLOR (COLUMBIA)
5	5	THE FIRST NOEL	WENDY SCHALL (COLUMBIA)
6	6	LET THERE BE LIGHT	JOHN & SHIRLEY (COLUMBIA)
7	7	AWAY IN A MANGER	KATHY DOLAN (COLUMBIA)
8	8	HURS WITH US	JOHN & SHIRLEY (COLUMBIA)
9	9	GOOD NIGHT YE MERRY GENTLEMEN	WENDY SCHALL (COLUMBIA)
10	10	DRUMMER BOY	WENDY SCHALL (COLUMBIA)
11	11	LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW	WENDY SCHALL (COLUMBIA)
12	12	SANTA CLAUSE IS COMING TO TOWN	WENDY SCHALL (COLUMBIA)
13	13	IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR	JOHN & SHIRLEY (COLUMBIA)
14	14	GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN	STACY DOLAN (COLUMBIA)
15	15	LIFESONG	DAVID TAYLOR (COLUMBIA)

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HELP WANTED

VNU Business Media publishes over 40 business publications, stages more than 70 trade shows and conferences and operates approximately 200 business-to-business electronic products. We operate around the globe, covering some of the most powerful industries in the world including entertainment, retail, media, travel and design.

Billboard, a VNU Publication, currently has the following openings for qualified candidates with a passion for music:

Director of Integrated Marketing & Brand Development - This New York based position will direct the public relations, marketing, and promotional efforts for the Billboard Information Group portfolio of products. This individual will also be responsible for developing new business opportunities. Additionally this individual will manage the Billboard brand market message by utilizing both internal and external media as well as through the development of partnerships and event promotions. The qualified candidate will be responsible for developing sales tools for the Billboard world-wide sales team as well as assisting the development of new revenue generating ventures.

We are seeking someone who is adept at managing numerous projects simultaneously, able to manage a team, has a strong knowledge of emerging and traditional media, able to maneuver in both creative and business environments, knows advertising and marketing industry operations, is a skilled copywriter and has a strong knowledge of media sales. Ideal candidate should have a minimum of 5-7 years experience.

Eastern Sales Director - This position is responsible for advertising sales across all Billboard Information Group properties - Billboard magazine, Billboard.com, billboard.biz on the eastern coast. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to phone sales, in-person sales appointments, and preparing sales presentations. Individuals will service existing business and cultivate new accounts. Emphasis will be on setting of frequency advertising schedules as well as cultivating large "portfolio partnership" accounts.

Qualified candidate must have a minimum of five years sales experience, preferably for publications with weekly deadlines, familiarity with on-line sales helpful. Must have exceptional verbal and written communication skills, competency with ACT and Excel preferable. Must have a college degree in a relevant area of study.

Please send resume and a cover letter including salary requirements to: enterintalent@vnubusiness.com

Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. No phone calls or agencies please. VNU Business Media offers a competitive salary with excellent benefits. VNU is an equal opportunity employer.

Billboard

HELP WANTED

NARM Seeks Executive VP

National Association of Recording Merchandisers seeks exec with minimum 7-10 years music/entertainment and tech industry experience. Must have proven sales background, preferably in new media, and be a creative and strategic thinker. Exceptional verbal, written and interpersonal communications skills; strong sense of financial accountability; and good organizational/supervisory abilities. EVP will develop and execute sales strategies for memberships, advertising, exhibits, and sponsorships; inform and enhance NARM's position in digital and mobile entertainment arenas and cultivate relationships with new companies. Also support day-to-day NARM management, including budget, facilities, convention, programs, and human resources; handle committees and special projects as needed. Non-profit or association management experience would be a plus. Resume, salary history and requirements by January 20 to: NARM EVP, 9 Eves Drive, Suite 120, Marlton, NJ 08053 or hr@narm.com. No call!

DUPLICATION/REPLICATION

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF ASSETS
OF
THE SONGWRITER COLLECTIVE, LLC

Notice is hereby given that Fortress Credit Opportunities I LP, a Delaware limited partnership, as a lender and as agent on behalf of the lenders (the "Agent") under that certain Loan Agreement, dated as of March 1, 2004, as amended (the "Loan Agreement"), among The Songwriter Collective, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as borrower (the "Debtor"), the Agent and the lenders, having postponed the public sales scheduled for November 4, 2005 and December 14, 2005, intends to sell at public sale in accordance with the provisions of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, certain personal property assets of the Debtor, generally described as all of the Debtor's right, title and interest of every kind and nature in and to all accounts, chattel paper, deposit accounts, documents, electronic chattel paper, equipment, certain intangibles, goods, instruments, inventory, investment property, payment intangibles and software belonging to the Debtor, in each case whether tangible or intangible, wherever located or situated, including all rights to a portfolio of musical compositions, including, in some instances, copyrights of the musical compositions, the right to and interest in any and all revenues and licenses derived from such musical compositions, and all claims and causes of action related to the Debtor's compositions accruing at any time and all other rights of the Debtor of any nature whatsoever in the musical compositions (the "Collateral"). A more detailed description of the Collateral will be provided to you upon execution of a confidentiality agreement.

The public sale will take place at the office of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP at 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10019, on Tuesday, January 31, 2006 at 11:00 a.m., New York time. The Agent reserves the right to cancel the sale, without notice, in its entirety, or to adjourn the sale to a future date. The Agent may further adjourn the sale herein described to another date from time to time, before, during or after commencement of bidding, without written notice, by announcement at the time and place appointed for such auction, or any adjournment thereof, and, without further notice, such auction may be made at the time and place to which the auction may have been so adjourned.

Interested persons should take notice that the Collateral will be sold on the following terms and conditions:

1. All bids must be given orally at the public sale.
2. The Agent reserves the right to bid for and purchase the Collateral and to credit the purchase price against the expenses of sale and principal, interest and any and all other amounts due and payable to the Agent pursuant to the terms of any and all indebtedness secured by the security interest in the Collateral.
3. The Agent has sole discretion to determine which offer is the highest or best offer, and to reject any offer which it deems to be insufficient.

4. Concurrently with the acceptance of any bid, the prospective purchaser shall be required to execute and deliver to the Agent the Asset Purchase Agreement, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the one of the person's identified in the final paragraph of this notice, containing terms of sale and conditions precedent to the Agent's obligation to sell, in each case, in addition to those set forth herein, including, without limitation, the requirement that the sale of the Collateral pursuant to the Asset Purchase Agreement be consummated no earlier than 30 days following execution thereof.

5. Upon acceptance of any bid, the prospective purchaser shall be required to deposit (the "Deposit") with the Agent earnest money in an amount equal to ten percent of the purchase price. Such Deposit shall only be refunded to such prospective purchaser as, and to the extent, provided in the Asset Purchase Agreement. In all other cases, the Agent shall have the right to retain such Deposit. If such sale of the Collateral is consummated with such prospective purchaser, the full amount of such Deposit shall be applied to the purchase price. If such sale is not consummated, the Agent shall have the right, but shall have no obligation, to reoffer the Collateral for sale, without further notice. The prospective purchaser shall not be entitled to any interest on the Deposit held by the Agent, whether or not the Deposit is required to be refunded to such prospective purchaser by the Agent pursuant to the Asset Purchase Agreement.

6. No bids may be withdrawn once made, but no sale is final until accepted by the Agent.

7. Only cash or cashier's check or other immediately available funds will be accepted for the Deposit or for payment of the purchase price. The bid of any prospective purchaser who fails to tender proper payment may be rejected and the Agent may, subject to the other terms hereof, (i) accept any alternative bid made at the sale, in which case the Agent shall have no obligation to reimburse the sale, accept additional bids, or notify any other bidders of the acceptance of such bid, or (ii) reoffer the Collateral for sale without further notice, in each case, at the Agent's option. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the Agent shall not be obligated to make any sale of the Collateral pursuant to this notice.

8. In the event the Agent is unable to consummate any sale and deliver the Collateral to a purchaser, then the sole liability of the Agent to such purchaser shall be to refund the purchase price, if any, previously paid to the Agent.

9. The Collateral will only be sold in its entirety unless the Agent announces otherwise at the outset of the public sale. 10. Subject to satisfaction of all of the conditions precedent to the Agent's obligation to sell the Collateral pursuant to the Asset Purchase Agreement and the terms and conditions hereof, consummation of the sale of the Collateral will be made immediately upon receipt by the Agent of the purchase price and shall be evidenced by delivery of the Collateral to the purchaser thereof, BUT WITHOUT DELIVERY OF A BILL OF SALE, WITHOUT GUARANTEE OF SIGNATURES, WITHOUT PAYMENT OF ANY TRANSFER OR OTHER TAX, AND WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY BY THE AGENT, AND SUBJECT TO ALL DEFENSES.

11. The above terms and conditions of sale may be subject to additional or amended terms and conditions to be announced at the time of sale.

12. If any dispute arises between two or more bidders, the Agent may decide the same or put the Collateral up for sale again and resell to the purchaser submitting the best bid, as determined by the Agent. In all cases, the Agent's decision shall be final.

13. All bidders and other persons attending this auction agree that they have full knowledge of the terms set forth above and contained in the Asset Purchase Agreement and agree to be bound by the terms thereof and thereof.

14. The Debtor shall have the right to redeem the Collateral in accordance with, and only to the extent provided for, under applicable law.

Persons desiring further information as to the public sale of the Collateral, and the terms and condition relating thereto, and/or desiring to obtain copies of the confidentiality agreement or the Asset Purchase Agreement, may contact either Martin Jackson (212/839-6762) of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10019 or Colleen McDonald (415/772-1207) of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, 555 California Street, San Francisco, California 94104, counsel for the Agent.

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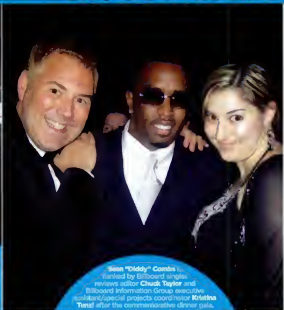
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RECORDING ACADEMY HONORS

Grammy Award-winning artists **Mariah Carey, Jay-Z, Yoko Ono & John Lennon** and **Howard Shore** were recipients of the Recording Academy's New York chapter Honors 2005, which took place Dec. 7 at New York's Gotham Hall.



Janet Fraser Crook

left, was recently honored with the U.K. music industry woman of the year trophy at the Park Lane Hotel in London. Fraser Crook was recognized as the director and co-founder of BBC2 TV's live performance series "Later With Jools Holland," which has run for 13 years. Pictured with Fraser Crook is **Sharleen Spilner**, lead singer of Scottish band Texas.

(Photo: John Marshall/jmrenternational.com)

The Spirit of Life Award
Roast honored RCA Music
Group executive VP of
promotion **Richard Palmese**
Dec. 6 at the Capitale in New York. The
event raised funds for the City of Hope,
one of the world's leading research and
treatment centers for cancer, diabetes,
HIV/AIDS and many other diseases. From
left are Palmese, BMG US chairman/CEO
Clive Davis, Island Records president **Steve
Bartels**, Def Jam and Roc-A-Fella Records
president/CEO **Jay-Z**, artist **Beyoncé** and
BMG US president/COO **Charles Goldstock**.
(Photo: Larry Busacca/WireImage.com)

XM Satellite Radio premiered the XM Nation Music Awards, honoring **Keith Urban**, right, as country artist of the year and "artist we'd like to see cross over to film." The winners were determined by the 1.4 million votes cast nationwide; categories were selected by XM's programming staff. XM executive VP of programming **Eric Logan** presented Urban with the two trophies backstage at the Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo. (Photo: XM Satellite Radio)

Songwriter **Phil Spector** left, produced a gold disk for the cover track "1981 Bill: Vol. 2" from Universal Music Publishing France along with **Alan Reeves** and **Philip Sgrignani**, wrote and performed the track "Are You Ready?" The cover track debuted April 18, 2000, and charted at No. 38 on The Billboard 200 and at No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100.



INSIDE TRACK

EDITED BY MICHAEL PAOLETTA

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SIN CITY

Sure, Kid Rock is booked to host the New Year's Eve party at Las Vegas' newest club, Jet at the Mirage. In fact, if what Track hears is true, the Atlantic Records rocker will take a break from his hosting duties to spin a live DJ set.

Meanwhile, a stone's throw away at the Venetian's Tac Club, Paris Hilton will be holding court, hosting her own Dec. 31 soiree. Track would not be surprised if Hilton performs at track or two from her in-progress Warner Bros. album for the blinged-out partygoers.

TRYING TO GET LABELED

Track hears that ringtone pioneer Ziggy wants to pair with an existing record label to form a wireless-only imprint. It is envisioned as an entity where new talent would be distributed via wireless ringtones and full-song downloads, with successful acts graduating to a physical deal with the label. Sources tell Track that Ziggy's phone is not ringing off the hook with potential partners. The departure of Ziggy's founder and CEO Fabrice Grunard a few weeks back only raises questions over the future of the effort.



KID ROCK

LAST GIRL STANDING

U.K. R&B/pop trio Sugababes has experienced yet another change in personnel. As many people were departing their offices to be with family and friends for the holidays, Mutya Buena pushed the farewell button on group members Keisha Buchanan and Heidi Range. She was replaced by Amelle Berrabah.

According to the trio's Website, Buena desired a break from the promotional whirlwind surrounding the group's fourth album, the No. 1 "Taller in More Ways," which has spawned two hit singles (the chart-topper "Push the Button" and the top 10 "Ugly"). Those keeping score will recall that Range replaced original member Siobhan Donaghy in 2001. In other words, as the sole original member of Sugababes, Buchanan can assume the role of Mary Wilson for today's generation.

THE GIRL IS HIS

From what Track hears, Brandy is no longer being managed by her mother, Sonja Norwood. Jimmy Henchman of Czar Entertainment in New York is now overseeing the artist's career. Henchman also manages the Game and Sharrisa.



HILTON

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

Jojo Phoenix was in Los Angeles the week of Dec. 19 directing the video for her single in Plumes' "If You Talk Too Much [My Head Will Explode]." The song is the lead single from the Welsh band's debut album, "As Far As the Eye Can See..." on March 28 via Wind-up Records.

MYA TO MOTOWN

Sources tell Track that Mya has signed with Motown Records. Formerly with A&M/Interscope, Mya is currently working on a new album.

CROSSING THE POND

U.K.-based nonprofit Youth Music, which provides music education to underprivileged British youth, has its eyes set on the American music industry. Founded in 2000, Youth Music is looking to partner with U.S. artists, labels and brands to help raise awareness about the organization's musical mission.

Track hears that Music Youth has tapped Morris Reid of Washington, D.C.-based marketing and communications firm Westin Rinehart to helm this effort. Reid, who has worked closely with the VH1 Save the Music Foundation and Russell Simmons' Hip-Hop Summit Action Network, appears tailor-made for the task.

POWER PLAYER ON THE MOVE

Stan Pierre-Louis is joining Kaye Scholer in New York in mid-January to co-lead the firm's entertainment division. As the RIAA's senior VP of legal affairs, Pierre-Louis has been leading the battle against unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing. Track wonders if he finished negotiating his compensation package before or after Billboard selected him as one of the winners on its 2005 Power Players list.

THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR

A tribute to Dionne Warwick featuring more than 50 artists performing the tunes she made famous will be held Jan. 26 at the Kodak Theater in Los Angeles. The special, which salutes Warwick's 45th anniversary in music, will include appearances by Stevie Wonder, Olivia Newton-John, Gloria Estefan, Smokey Robinson, Angie Stone, Ashford & Simpson, Yolanda Adams and Belva Davis. Producer David Gest is in negotiations for TV airrights.

Executive TURNTABLE

EDITED BY SARAH HAN

RECORD COMPANIES: Sony BMG Music Entertainment in New York names **Andrew C. Wilk** chief creative officer of content, DualDisc and DVD. He was executive VP of programming, production and news at the National Geographic Channel.

Atlantic Records in New York names **Tom Aaron** senior VP of international. He was VP and head of international at Columbia Records.

Provident Music Group in Nashville names **Mark Giles** VP of national promotions. He was director of national promotions at Integrity Label Group.

Cooking Vinyl in New York names **Jason Fisher** VP of promotion. He was director of promotion at TV of Columbia Records.

Lyric Street Records in Nashville names **Cindy Heath** director of publicity. She was sales product manager at RCA Label Group.

EMI Televisa Music in Miami names **Josue Rivas** press and TV manager. He was a publicist at event promotion company CMH.

TOURING/VENUES: House of Blues Entertainment in Hollywood names **Bill Benjamin** VP of sponsorship sales. He is based in Los Angeles. Benjamin was head of the ESPN Zone sponsorship sales team at Disney Regional Entertainment.

PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Carol Yumkas has opened Yumkas Management in Santa Monica, Calif. She is VP of talent and industry relations at Sirius Satellite Radio. Edge Management in Los Angeles names **Dario Svidler** VP. He was music manager at Handprint Entertainment.



HOME VIDEO: Rhino Entertainment in Burbank, Calif., promotes Liz Goodman to senior director of marketing, video. She was director of marketing, home video. Rhino Entertainment also ups **Kathy Rhikin** to manager of A&R, video. She was coordinator, home video.

RELATED FIELDS: HIT Entertainment in New York names **Bill Burke** VP of brand management. He was assistant VP of marketing, global consumer products at Sasame Workshop.

Send submissions to shan@billboard.com.

GOODWORKS

FIELDS OF GOLD

Sting is confirmed to headline Tiger Woods' ninth annual Tiger Jam benefit concert April 29. Presented by AT&T and held at the Mandalay Bay Events Center in Las Vegas, the event raises funds for local charities as well as the Tiger Woods Learning Center, a youth education facility in Anaheim, Calif., that is scheduled to open early in 2006.

CHARITABLE STARS

More than 40 artists—including Peter Gabriel, Herbie Hancock, Kate Bush, Barry Gibb and Annie Lennox—are participating in a charity auction to raise funds and awareness for Witness, the human rights organization co-founded by Gabriel. On April 6, Fairlight will auction a vintage Fairlight CMI keyboard at a Witness fund-raiser in Los Angeles. Each white key of the digital synthesizer will be signed by the participating musicians, producers and composers.

Kid Rock Photo: Steven Nizkor/WireImage.com; Paris Hilton Photo: Donato Sotgiu/WireImage.com



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F/ CIARA & FAT MAN SCOOP (GOLDMIND ATLANTIC)

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